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THE
BANKS OF THE FORTH:

A Descriptive and Historical Sketch.

by James Lothian

"Such fields, such woods, such stately piles appear,
Such gardens grace the earth, such towers the air,
That Forth with Roman Tiber may compare."

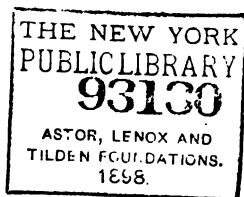
ALLOA:

PRINTED AND PUBLISHED AT THE ALLOA ADVERTISING OFFICE,

By JAMES LOTHIAN.

1862.

L.L.



THE SUBSCRIBER *has long had in view the publication of the present little work, but other duties have prevented him till now committing his materials to the press.*

Deluged though we are each season with every diversity of "guide-book" or "hand-book," the SUBSCRIBER apprehends that justice has not hitherto been done to the BANKS OF THE FORTH. If the present publication shall prove interesting to the dwellers along the borders of old BODOTRIA; if it shall in any degree be useful to tourists and steam-boat passengers; and if it shall find acceptance as a slight souvenir to families abroad to whom the FORTH was as a familiar friend, the aim of the SUBSCRIBER will have been sufficiently attained.

J. IOTHIAN, Jun.

ALLOA ADVERTISER OFFICE,

ALLOA, July, 1862.

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THE VIEW FROM LEITH ROADS.

MAGNIFICENT indeed is the picture of varied grandeur and beauty comprised within the compass of one's vision from the middle of the Frith, or as the harbour of Leith or Granton is approached from the Fife coast. River and landscape, buoyant with beauty, has each its manifold attractions, but little else will here be attempted than a brief survey and enumeration of some of the more remarkable features of the lovely and picturesque scene.

Chief amid the crowd of objects rich in historical associations, the **BASS ROCK** claims mention, situated at the mouth of the Frith of Forth, and rising precipitously 400 feet above the level of the sea. On the south side of this island, but now in ruins, is a castle which, during the reign of Charles II., was converted into a royal fortress and state prison, and many of the Covenanters were here long confined. In the Bass is a natural cavern, dismally dark in the centre, but which may be passed through in safety at low water. Like Ailsa Craig, the Bass is largely frequented by Solan geese, whose snow-white plumage imparts a fine effect to the precipitous cliffs of the great rock. The **ISLE OF MAY**, opposite to the Bass, was formerly the seat of a small religious establishment; some remains of a priory are still to be seen here; and the lighthouse, known to all mariners, was in its building one of the most expensive edifices of the kind, as it is certainly one of the most useful, in Scotland. On the summit of the isle is a fixed bright light, and an additional light has been placed on the north-east side. Steam-boat pleasure excursions were wont to be made to these islands, but such trips are now seldom, in consequence partly of the landing of passengers being prohibited, and because of the Admiralty restrictions as to passenger-steamers voyaging beyond certain limits down the river. Further up the Frith is **INCHKEITH**, which, from its commanding position has oftentimes been suggested as an appropriate point from whence, if efficiently fortified, to defend the coast on either side in the event of the approach of a hostile fleet. It was during the protracted French war, and when there were fears of invasion from the foreign foe, that the **MARTELLO TOWER** at Leith was erected, and that at an expense of £16,000. Leith road-stead not only commands a view of Inchkeith, Cramond, Inchcolm, Mickery, and grassy islets of lesser magnitude,—on either

side of the Frith, bordering the coast, appear the undulating landscape, with its verdant plains and meadows, and fields teeming with fertility ; prosperous trading and commercial towns, and sea-bathing villages with their joyous population. The river itself presents a scene of splendid animation. A tribe of fishermen chiefly belonging to Leith and Newhaven is here almost constantly employed ; steamers laden with passengers are crossing and re-crossing the Frith, others breasting the breeze up and down the river ; sailing vessels may be seen scudding along under canvas, others reposing at their safe and ample anchorage ; while, it may be, the eye descries the London and continental steamers just dipping below the eastern horizon.

LEITH, with its old and new piers, its spacious docks, its harbours, and shipping, is a seaport of high antiquity and importance, but from its roadstead the view of the "city of palaces" itself is more attractive and commanding. Edinburgh—by no means inaptly designated "Modern Athens,"—with its hills and crags, its battlemented castle, its temples for worship and schools for education, its splendid monuments, palatial buildings, and noble institutions, will be admired for its beauty—beauty of situation and beauty of architecture—while the National Monument, even in its fragmentary state, must be allowed to lend its own peculiar charm to the exquisite picture.

While, in the view from Leith Roads, is embraced the ancient castle whose glory has long since passed away ; the renowned but now tenantless mansion ; the strong old keep but now ivy-mantled tower ; the rich but now ruined monastery ; many similar objects of historic value, fitted to arrest the attention of the inquiring tourist, or exploring antiquary, will be met with along the banks or on the islets of the beauteous river we purpose to ascend. Could but the silent walls of those once stately buildings speak, what sorrows, what joys, what crimes, they could unfold to us ! Think of all the struggles and agonies they have witnessed, such as would excite wonder and amazement ; trials that would at once call into existence the deepest sympathies of our nature ; triumphs over temptation such as would elevate our idea of frail humanity. The walls of the sacred, but now desecrated chapel no longer look down upon the piety that for ages had knelt there in solemn form. All is now changed, save that sun which for centuries has shone through the ancient windows, and that silent eloquence time and eternity, which still reigneth over all.

A TRIP UP THE FORTH.

BEFORE commencing this trip, and making the splendid pier of Granton the starting point, it may be worth while to remark that within the memory of many still actively engaged in the business of life, the time was when there was neither Newhaven pier, Chain Pier, nor Granton Pier, at which to land and embark passengers travelling by steamboat betwixt Stirling and Edinburgh. The steamer in those days (1814 to 1818) lay off Newhaven, at the most accessible part of the beach, and passengers were conveyed to and from the vessel by means of a small boat. A primitive gangway having rude wheels was propelled a short way into the water to meet the boat,—this contrivance saving passengers the pleasant performance of skipping ashore on the rocks, or of being carried to land on the shoulders of the boatmen. Newhaven pier afterwards became for a few years the place of arrival and departure, and the completion in 1822 of that goodly specimen of mechanical skill, the Chain Pier, allowed passengers to be landed and embarked there comfortably during the period of nearly 20 years. Thereafter, for those purposes, the steam-boat company availed themselves of the more commodious pier at Granton,—a pier which owes its existence to the patriotic munificence and liberality of the Duke of Buccleuch. Granton is now one of the best equipped ports in the kingdom, and large enough to shelter a fleet, while there are extensive wharfing for mineral traffic, an admirably worked patent slip, shipbuilding yards, (Menzies of Leith), locomotive engine works (Hawthorns & Co.), a railway from the wharf for the conveyance of minerals and goods to Slateford on the Caledonian line, and grain to the Caledonian distillery, and, generally, all the desiderata of a first-class port. The years, too, are ended during which passengers at both piers were afflicted by having to listen to the boisterous altercation of drivers of rival coaches and omnibuses, drivers who pertinaciously importuned ladies and gentlemen (a little of the physical force argument sometimes accompanying the moral suasion,) to be allowed the pleasure of conveying their luggage to Croall's "Sovereign," or Henderson's "Invincible." The railway from Granton to Edinburgh has ended all unseemly contention between rival whips, and Jehu is seldom now-a-days to be seen, save when rattling along the spacious pier with the phaeton of some private party, in nick of time to "catch the steamer."

The "Prince of Wales," which happens on the day of our trip to be the steamer, gets under weigh at noon, and as it appears from the time-bill that she proceeds not to Alloa only, as sometimes happens, but to Stirling Shore, there is the certainty and satisfaction of ascending the river with a flowing tide. The weather, too, is favourable ; the temperature of the air being delicious and the sky all purity and brightness ; while, amongst the company on board, are to be found the representatives of every figure in the social barometer. Under circumstances so favourable, passengers will witness to every advantage not only the attractive marine view, but a landscape which presents to them in rapid succession populous towns, villages, and gentlemen's seats, variegated and diversified with woods, plantations, pleasure grounds, and highly cultivated fields. The steamer having cleared the craft moored within the basin formed by the breakwater of Granton Pier, steers north-west into the channel, allowing a favourable view of that noble island reposing in the midst of the waters, and which in the evening exhibits a brilliant revolving light—**INCHKEITH**—the property of the Duke of Buccleuch, while a transient glimpse is afforded of the coast of Fife. Specially on that coast may be mentioned **BURNTISLAND**, a royal burgh, which has risen greatly in commercial importance from its connexion with the Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee Railway, and prized as a place of fashionable resort during the summer months. Shortly after leaving Granton

CAROLINA PARK,

the property of the Duke of Buccleuch, comes into notice. Carolina House is at present the residence of the widow of Lord John Scott. In bold script letters on the south side of the old mansion are the names "Anne Vicountess Tarbet"—1696—"George Vicount Tarbet," while 1635 appears on the north side of the building, along with a lengthy but illegible inscription. At one time the house was in possession of the Mackenzies of Cromarty, and Granton castle, beside it, now in ruins, was the property of the Hopes of Granton. The old names "Royston House" and "Royston castle," though sometimes still erroneously given, were long since dropped, and the modern appellation of "Carolina" given to the feu since the two properties became united. The walls of the old castle are still remarkable for their strength, and in the heart of the ruin may be seen growing a sycamore tree of great size. Railway operations in connection with the stone quarries and the harbour and piers of Granton, have encroached greatly, and continue to encroach, upon the amenity of Carolina Park.

GRANTON HOUSE,

in the immediate vicinity, formerly the seat of the Right Hon. Charles Hope, late Lord President of the Court of Session, afterwards of his son the late Right Hon. John Hope, the Lord Justice Clerk, is now the residence of the Right Hon. Sir John M'Neill, K.C.B., F.R.S.E. Passing in succession on the same side the mansion of Muirhouse (Mr Davidson); Broomfield (Mr Wilson); Silver-knowe, (George Young, Esq., advocate), the steamer approaches

CRAMOND ISLAND,

seen nearly opposite the village of Cramond. The river Almond here terminates its long and varied course by flowing into the Forth. Cramond island has about twenty acres of arable land, affords excellent pasturage, it abounds with rabbits, and there is good accommodation for bathers. It is accessible on foot at low water, but if a timely retreat be not made a residence here of some hours is the penalty. The island is the property of Lady Torphichen, but is leased to a family of the name of M'Dougall, who have long resided on it. In the vicinity is the

VILLAGE OF CRAMOND,

at one time a Roman station and occasionally the residence of the Bishops of Dunkeld. The place has of late been invested with additional interest from Cramond House (Mr Inglis) having been chosen as the temporary residence of the late lamented Duchess of Kent. Near the shore are Cramond iron-works, which formerly belonged to Messrs Caddell & Sons, but now they are the property of Mr Charles Craigie Halkett Inglis. The works give employment to about 100 hands. There is here a powerful steam hammer, of beautiful workmanship, which cost, in Glasgow, £1700.* At Cramond, Roman relics have been found, some at the "Roman harbour," and on the road from Carriden to Cramond. Distant a short way from this village, but not visible from the deck of the steamer, is

BARNTON HOUSE,

formerly the seat of the late W. R. Ramsay, Esq. of Barnton, (leader in Scotland of racing, hunting, and other country

* The following are the regulations as to crossing Cramond river:—
 "No person under any pretence to be allowed to cross the river except workmen employed on the Dalmeny estate; inhabitants of the village of Cramond who have business at the Park; or ladies and gentlemen who wish to see the grounds, and who are requested to leave their names at the cottage; all who are thus permitted to cross, to be ferried in Lord Rosebery's boat, for which no money is allowed to be taken."

sports) and which remains in the possession of Mrs Ramsay and her son. Near the demesne of Barnton stood *Cramond Regis*, a hunting seat of James V.—the gudeman of Ballangeich—"his return to which, when attacked by gipsies, who had been incensed at some of his gallantries, gave rise to the well known and popularly dramatised incident of Cramond Brig; the hero whereof is a certain John Howieson, occupant of the 'Mailing' of Braehead." The turrets of

LAURIESTON CASTLE

may not have passed unnoticed—a castle which calls to recollection the name of John Law, the projector of the famous Mississippi scheme, which involved a great many families in inextricable ruin. This castle was at one time the property of Mr Ramsay of Barnton, who sold it to the late Lord Rutherford, and who by a liberal expenditure of money greatly improved it. It was afterwards leased for a time from his Lordship by the Duchess of Sutherland, and was subsequently again sold, for, it is reported, the sum of £24,000, the purchaser being Mr Halkett Inglis of Cramond House. More recently, Laurieston Castle has become the property of Miss Macpherson Grant, and it is at present occupied by the father of this lady, Dr Grant, a medical gentleman, who was formerly in the East India Company's service. Here, the sea-shore is whitened with shell-beds, and

DALMENY PARK,

the seat of the Earl of Rosebery, now invites notice. The mansion-house, which is delightfully situated, is surrounded by exquisitely laid out pleasure grounds. A visit to this splendid demesne was embraced in the Royal Progress of 1842, when Queen Victoria made her first tour to Scotland. Writing of this visit of Her Majesty, Mr W. Wallace Fyfe, in his erudite work, "Summer Life on Land and Water," to which, for various interesting facts obligations are here expressed, remarks:—"The woodland and marine landscape, comprised in the vast extent of Dalmeny grounds, varied by hill and dale, meadow and forest scenery, with the fine expanse of the waters of the Frith of Forth bounding the park for several miles, is represented as having highly delighted the Queen, who was introduced into the splendid suite of apartments, on the north side of the noble Earl's mansion, and entertained at a sumptuous *dejeuner*. Her Majesty afterwards presented herself to the people, patiently awaiting in the rain without; the Earl of Rosebery, with whom she stood conversing, and smiling on the enthusiasm of the scene, having thrown open the library window for that purpose; whilst Prince Albert, equally

delighted, was also seen standing in conversation with the Countess of Rosebery. The crowd thus honoured, included most of the humble but honest cottars of the surrounding district, whom the noble Earl had specially directed should have every facility for admission to the grounds." The parish of Dalmeny gives the title of Lord Dalmeny to Lord Rosebery's eldest son. But Lord Dalmeny died here in 1851, very suddenly, from the bursting of a blood-vessel, leaving two sons and two daughters. The Hon. Bouverie F. Primrose is now the eldest surviving son of Lord Dalmeny. A daughter of Lord Rosebery was married to the late Hon. Henry Tuffnell, M.P. for Devonport. The village of Dalmeny, with its abundance of woodland and picturesque scenery, is a pleasant little spot, and here stands Dalmeny church, in the purest Norman style—a church, according to Mr Billings, which is one of the most truly venerable and interesting specimens of ecclesiastical architecture of which Scotland can boast. Within the policy of Dalmeny, and near the house, will be seen the ivy-mantled ruin of

BARNBOUGLE CASTLE.

"This castle hath a pleasant seat; the air
Nimbly and sweetly recommends itself
Unto our gentle senses."

This ancient stronghold (built in the year 1414) was once the property and a seat of the famous Mowbray family. Barnbogle is planted on a rock-built terrace, which affords a very pleasing view of the Forth, and rises to a lofty elevation, but the castle is now in a very dilapidated condition, no one having resided in it for nearly 50 years. A Chinese stone rail surrounds the old ruin. From the interior of the mansion a subterranean passage, now filled up, led to the baths below, but the external entrances to these baths have now been blocked up with a stone barricade, so that the river water is effectually excluded. The entrances to three exhausted wine cellars of the old baronial mansion remain open. The pupils of many of the neighbouring city and village schools are oftentimes treated to a trip to Barnbogle, and the pic-nic party, if desirous to enhance the comfort of their simple repast, may still kindle a fire in what was once an apartment in this celebrated mansion. Nearly 300 years ago, Barnbogle Park was the scene, as recorded by Birrel, of 'Ane singill combat fochin betwix Adame Bruntfield and James Carmichael. The historian records that the fight took place in "Barnbowgal Links, before fyve thousand gentilmen," and Adame though of "mein statur, slew the said James Carmichael." Looking towards the Fife coast, a glimpse may be had of

ABERDOUR,

with its sandy beach and primitive harbour. Many find Aberdour to be a cheap and comfortable place to live in during the summer months, but the locality is somewhat inaccessible. The village and parish give the title of Lord Aberdour to the eldest son of the Earl of Morton, who is proprietor of Aberdour House or Castle, once an interesting pile, but now deserted. Mr Billings, however, certainly exaggerates in asserting "it forms a ready-made quarry for the whole neighbourhood." In two popular ballads which will be found in Aytoun's collection, Aberdour is introduced. The long avenue of trees from the harbour, and the walk along the beach to Burntisland, are admired by all visitors. Conveniently seen from the shore of Aberdour is the HAYSTACK or Carcary Island, so named from its configuration; as also Inchmickery; but of much greater interest, and within two miles of Aberdour, is the far-famed island of

INCHCOLM.

In size this island is a small one, being about a mile and half in circumference, but it derives importance that in the midst of it are the ruins of an interesting monastery of the Augustine monks, founded in 1123, by Alexander I., King of Scotland, he having been then wrecked upon it when crossing the Frith from Fife. The king (who was the fifth son of Malcolm III., succeeded to the throne in the year 1107, and died at Stirling, April, 1124,) was mercifully preserved in the midst of the dreadful storm, and he made a vow that he would found a monastery to St Columba. The hermit who resided on the island entertained the king and his retinue for three days, as hospitably as was in his power, and in due time the monastery was erected in fulfilment of the vow. So valuable was this monastery deemed by the English, that, in the time of Edward the Third, they thought proper to plunder it, but the marauders were pursued and many of the English perished in a severe conflict, while the survivors had to make ample restitution. "Though the light grey walls of the ruin (says Mr Billings) are distinctly visible in clear weather from the streets of Edinburgh, and from the villages that line the Frith, Iona itself has not an air of stiller solitude. Here, within view of the gay capital, and with half the riches of Scotland of earlier days spread around them, the brethren might look forth from their secure retreat, on that busy ambitious world, from which, though close at hand, they were effectually severed." Around the square tower of the monastery, are the dilapidated gables and stone roofs of the

church and monastic buildings. Not far from the Island of Inchcolm, and above Aberdour, conspicuously appears

DONIBRISTLE,

the ancient seat of the Moray Family, and till its recent destruction by fire, the residence of the Earl of Moray, though originally intended as a residence of the princely Abbot of Inchcolm. "In the month of Decr. 1595," says Bishop Percy, in his *Reliques*, "Francis Stewart, Earl of Bothwell, had made an attempt to seize the person of his sovereign, James VI., but being disappointed, had retired towards the north. The king, unadvisedly, gave a commission to George Gordon, Earl of Huntly, to pursue Bothwell and his followers with fire and sword. Huntly, under cover of effecting that commission, took occasion to avenge a private quarrel he had against James Stewart, Earl of Moray, a relation of Bothwell's. In the night of February 7, 1592, he beset Moray's house, burnt it to the ground, and slew Moray himself, an estimable nobleman. The present Lord Moray has now in his possession a picture of his ancestor, naked and covered with wounds, which had been carried about according to the custom of that age, in order to inflame the populace to avenge his death, and he is there represented as a tall and comely personage. The tragical occurrence is more explicitly and graphically described by Sir Walter Scott in his "*Tales of a Grandfather*," and upon it is also founded the ballad of the "*Bonnie Earl of Murray*," which will be found in Professor Aytoun's "*Ballads of Scotland*," accompanied with a narrative of the foul murder. On Tuesday, 8th of April, 1858, Donibristle House was a second time, in the absence of the family, destroyed by fire,—how originating is uncertain. By ten morning, such was the devouring nature of the flames, the building was a mass of ruins, nothing remaining save smouldering wood and blackened walls. Ere the fire-engines from Dunfermline and Edinburgh arrived, the flames had such a hold of the mansion that they proved of no essential service. A number of valuable pictures were saved, but the rare and priceless pictures in the dining room, including the family portraits, were lost, except the original much-prized portrait of the young Regent Moray. Several large antique mirrors, and cabinets of costly workmanship, were also destroyed in the conflagration.

ST DAVID'S

is a growing little village to the west of Donibristle, and at this well known seaport great quantities of coals from the numerous adjacent coal mines are conveyed to the quay of

St David's, the lines of railway converging to the harbour, where the coals or other commodities are very conveniently and expeditiously shipped. The owner of St David's is Mr Henderson, the proprietor of the estate of Fordell. Further along, and still on the northern shore, will be found

INVERKEITHING,

situated on an acclivity at the head of a beautiful and spacious bay, which is almost surrounded partly by old and partly by modern buildings. The edifices being planted on eminences surrounding the harbour, give the bay at high-water a splendid appearance. There is a large quantity of coal shipped here annually, a line of railway running from the harbour to Halbeath, and there is an extensive iron foundry, shipbuilding-yard, brewery, brickwork, and distillery, this last, however, being almost silent. The town itself is not remarkable for extent, or for the uniformity, regularity, or elegance of its buildings, but it contains an industrious and thriving population. There are some very curious old houses, and the sculptured burgh cross rises on a pillar in the centre of the town. The bay being so sheltered becomes an excellent harbour of refuge in tempestuous weather, and the port is one of those officially appointed for vessels riding quarantine. In the reign of David I., Inverkeithing was a royal residence, and the Franciscans and Dominicans are each said to have had a convent here. From Inverkeithing there are two roads to North Queensferry, the old and the new. He who travels the old will be rewarded abundantly for any little extra fatigue occasioned by what may be significantly styled a corduroy road. Midway, the highest altitude of the hillock is reached, and from this central point of view, looking down from the cliff upon the pellucid lake below, Inverkeithing and its bay are seen to the best advantage. Before arriving at Queensferry, it may here not be out of place to give a tragical story, of which, according to Defoe, Inverkeithing was the scene in the reign of Queen Anne:—"The *Master of Burleigh* (so the eldest son of a Lord or Viscount is called while the father is living) fell in love with a young woman in his father's family; but could not prevail with her either to marry him, or to sacrifice her virtue to him; which being known, she was sent away, and he persuaded to travel. However, before his departure, he declared she should be his wife at his return; and if any one else should marry her in his absence, he would murder him. This passed without much notice, and the young woman was soon after married to a schoolmaster in Inverkeithing. The gentleman re-

turned, and understanding who was her husband, went to his house at noon-day, pulled out a pistol, and shot him dead on the spot, making his escape unmolested. But a proclamation being afterwards issued, with a reward of £200 for apprehending him, he was at last taken and tried at Edinburgh by the Lords of Justiciary, and condemned to have his head cut off. Great intercession was made to the Queen for his pardon, which proving ineffectual, he found means to make his escape out of the tolbooth of Edinburgh, disguised in his sister's clothes, the night before he was to be executed. After that, he appeared in the rebellion of 1715, and was in the Battle of Sheriffmuir, but again escaped with his life, though his estate, which was but small, was forfeited among the rest." So runs the stirring old story, and now the ringing of a bell, and the puffing away of a little superfluous steam, remind us that

NORTH QUEENSFERRY,

a small village of about five hundred inhabitants, has been arrived at, where, by means of a small boat, passengers are brought on board or landed from the steamer. North Queensferry, has long been famous for its whinstone quarries, and these give employment to a great many workmen. Russian, London, and Liverpool docks, as also the piers of Newcastle and Granton, have been partially built with the whinstone found here, and it was used in the construction of the Forth and Clyde canal. North Queensferry, from the pleasantness of its situation and its salubrity, is resorted to by many families during the months of summer or autumn, as seabathing quarters, and in all the following cottages visitors can find comfortable accommodation:—Barns cottage, Viewforth cottage, Hillside cottage, Braehouse, Ferryhouse, Seabank cottage, North Cliff cottages, Craig cottages, Cruick's house &c. From the steamer will be seen numerous finely-situated mansions, St. Margaret's, (Wm. Elder, Esq.); North Cliff, seat of David A. Pearson, Esq., now occupied by Colonel Crawford; Craigdhue, (Mrs Robert Douglas); Rockville, (Isaac Scott, Esq.); Dean cottage, (Robert Robertson, Esq.); Ferryhill house (Robert Jeffrey, Esq.) Part of a large house in the village, formerly used as an inn, has been converted into a meeting-house, where there is public worship twice every Sunday. North Queensferry has a large and commodious school (Mr R. A. J. Davidson); it is a coast-guard station, and also a fishing-station. Here the Forth becomes a strait or estuary, narrowed to the breadth of half-a-mile, but the distance from the north pier to that on the south side of

the Ferry is two miles, and in mid-channel stands the isle of

INCHGARVIE,

fitted, if not intended, from its imposing proportions to command the passage and ascent of the Forth, having still the stately though decayed memorials of a fort or castle erected in the reign of James IV., and at one time employed as a state prison. The depth of water here is believed to be greater than at any other part of the Forth, being nearly forty fathoms deep. From this barren rock, which rises to an elevation of 100 feet above the water, an extensive view of the firth is obtained. It has a well, rather stagnant. A short distance a-head of Inchgarvie will be seen

BEMAR ROCK,

or Bemar Island, as it is sometimes called, having a substantial stone beacon about thirty feet in height, and thirteen feet in diameter, erected by the Commissioners of Northern Lighthouses. Before further ascending the river,

SOUTH QUEENSFERRY,

with its costly Long Craig, Portneuk, Newhalls, and Binks piers, claims notice. Its name and local customs, as well as armorial insignia, bear reference to a remarkable event in our Scottish history, the landing of the illustrious Saxon princess and the spread of civilisation under Malcolm Canmore. It is not doubted that the well known passage across the Forth has received the distinctive appellation of "Queensferry," after the estimable princess Margaret. Here, in 1680, was brought to light of day a document of much ecclesiastical importance, as forming the basis of the Revolution, called "The Queensferry Paper," or, as it was sometimes called, "The Fanatics' Covenant," in which Dr Hetherington, in his "History of the Church of Scotland," traces "the small germ out of which arose British Liberty, that plant of renown, under the world-wide branches whereof all tribes and kindreds of mankind rejoice." At the west end of Queensferry there is an interesting ecclesiastical ruin, an old red tiled house, known as the Covenanter's House or "Palace." It is at present inhabited by the lowest of the population. At the Ferry Muir of Queensferry, about a quarter of a mile above the town, there was a batch of witches burned in the year 1644; witchcraft in those days being rather a fashionable vice at Queensferry, and those addicted to the crime were either "fyned most sickerlie," "banished out of ye kingdome," or burned. The quartering of the flower of the French army of 1385, and the passage of Oliver Cromwell's army across the Frith at Queensferry, before the battle of

Inverkeithing in 1651, are military incidents of no small mark in the history of an old Scottish burgh. At present the only public work of any importance about the place is Glenforth distillery, near the head of the harbour. At this work, the weekly product is 3000 gallons of malt whisky. The old and dull burgh of S. Queensferry is governed by six councillors, two baillies, and a provost, in addition to a town-clerk,—the present respected provost being David Greig, Esq., surgeon. Over the town well is an iron plate, with the burgh arms, bearing the following inscription:—“By the Magistrates and Town Council, in gratitude for the liberality and kindness of Archibald John, Earl of Rosebery, provost of the burgh, to whom the inhabitants are indebted for a bleaching-green and this supply of water, 1817.” A mile to the westward of South Queensferry is

PORT EDGAR,

a low-water pier, which derives its name from a tradition that Edgar Atheling, accompanied by his sisters Margaret and Catherine, and a retinue of followers, having secretly left their homes for Hungary, were driven up the Forth by tempestuous weather, and disembarked at a point about a mile to the west of North Queensferry, known ever after as St Margaret's Hope, or the Hope,—while a rock on the opposite shore at which Edgar Atheling is believed to have landed, received the name of Port Edgar. On the 29th of August, 1822, his Majesty George the Fourth, who had been on a visit to the Earl of Hopetoun at Hopetoun House, made this pier the point of his embarkation on leaving Scotland after the Royal visit. More recently, on 6th Sept., 1842, when Queen Victoria and Prince Albert crossed the Queensferry in their progress northwards, they sailed up to this vicinity, when the pier with its interesting associations, and other striking objects in the surrounding scenery, were pointed out to them. Conspicuous in the landscape is Dundas Hill, as also that great feudal fortress,

DUNDAS CASTLE,

which has been in the possession of the Dundas family for a period of about 700 years. This fine specimen of an old Scottish stronghold is at present in possession of James Dundas, Esq., Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Linlithgow, a gentleman whose active inquiring mind, and whose mechanical ingenuity, have led him to establish on his estate what he himself styles a “Paragon” work, giving employment to from ninety to a hundred mechanics and engineers. Passing the sweet hamlet of Society, the visitor approaches

HOPETOUN HOUSE,

elsewhere noticed at greater length in these pages, a splendid mansion of the noble family of Hopetoun, built upon a delightful plain, and beautifully situated on the same side of the Forth, about a mile from the margin of the river. The grounds and plantations in the immediate vicinity please and surprise the visitor by their beauty and order, and from the house itself a succession of water views is furnished unequalled in variety anywhere on the estuary. The young Earl of Hopetoun, to the regret of many, spends but two or three months a year at Hopetoun House, and there are other noblemen whose residences border the Forth who would do well, along with his Lordship, to accept and act upon the admonition of Robert Burns—

“O, would they stay aback frae courts,
An' please themselves wi' contra sports,
It wad for ev'ry ane be better,
The laird, the tenant, and the cottar !”

On the north side of the river, on a projecting rock, stands

ROSYTHE CASTLE,

a large square tower, the property of the Earl of Hopetoun. It was the ancient seat of the Stuarts of Rosyth, or Durisdeer, a branch of the royal family from which Oliver Cromwell is said to have descended. It is alleged that the grandmother of Cromwell was born here. On a stone in the south side of the tower near the ground, and where the dinner bell is said to have hung, is a quaint inscription the words of which have been thus modernized,

“In due time draw this cord, the bell to clink
Whose merry voice warns to meat and drink.”

Over one of the doorways is the inscription “M. R. 1561,” with the cross and the crown, the unmistakable insignia of one whose fate and misfortunes shed a halo of interest around so many of our ruined castles in Scotland. It is affirmed indeed that Queen Mary slept here the first night after her flight from Lochleven Castle, and on her way to Glasgow. Either from the flight of steps decaying through age, or from having been wilfully destroyed, many years ago, there is no way, without difficulty and danger, of reaching the summit of Rosyth. Briefly must be noticed,

ST MARGARET'S HOPE,

as the bay between the Cruicks promontory (North Queensferry) and Rosyth Castle is designated. This splendid basin, which at all times and in all weathers affords a safe retreat and secure anchorage for vessels, is so called from the circumstance of the Princess Mar-

garet, sister of Edgar Atheling, afterwards consort of Malcolm Canmore, having been wrecked there in her flight from England, immediately after the Norman conquest. It has been doubted whether the name was imposed by Malcolm's queen or her attendants; be this as it may, the name of "St Margaret's Hope" preserves a record of the spot on the coast of our Frith where this excellent Princess first stepped on Scottish ground. Her hallowed memory still survives in many local traditions. "St Margaret's Chapel, in the castle of Edinburgh, remains no unmeet memorial of residence and worship, and of her death there; and the beautiful gothic well of St Margaret, at Restalrig, proves the veneration which her name inspired in the devout and superstitious piety of a later age." In June 1860 a number of the vessels of our Channel Fleet were moored in this beautiful haven, and here it was that, for a full fortnight, those noble specimens of our "wooden walls" reposed in grandeur, like towers along the deep. Such was the interest manifested by all classes of the people to mark well their country's bulwarks, that steamers and yachts were cruising continually in considerable numbers amongst the Channel squadron during the entire period of the sojourn at St Margaret's Hope, namely, from the 8th to the 23d of June. Daily were thousands of visitors not only welcomed on board, but kindly conducted over these noble ships of the line, and the undeviating urbanity and respect thus shown to the excursionists, alike by gallant officers and men belonging to each floating city, will long be warmly remembered. The Regatta days, the 20th and 21st of June, were the most joyous of all. One can almost imagine he still sees the gaily dressed leviathans riding calmly at their anchors, the decks and rigging crowded with enraptured spectators, watching with anxious eye the varying fortunes of the race; now this boat first, and then that; at length the gun is fired, the goal is won; the oars of the winning boat are tossed, and she returns to her ship amidst the cheers of the assembled thousands; and whilst the next race is preparing, the bands of the different vessels, with enlivening notes, invite those of the merry crowd who are fond of dancing to join in the giddy waltz. At length the signal was given for the squadron to weigh.

"Uptorn, reluctant from its oozy cave,
The ponderous anchor rises o'er the wave;
High on the slippery masts the yards ascend
And far abroad the canvas wings extend."

On the southern shore appears, in all its massive proportions and sombre grandeur, planted on a rocky promontory.

BLACKNESS CASTLE,

which, within the past few weeks, has been improved in its appearance by the labours of several carpenters and plasterers. It is a popular notion that Blackness, Stirling, Edinburgh, and Dumbarton castles, are kept up in terms of the Treaty of Union, but in the Treaty of Union there is no stipulation as to the maintenance of any fortresses. Nevertheless, Blackness was for one or two centuries used as a state prison, numbers of the Covenanters were confined within its walls, and it is memorable as having been for a short time, a place of confinement for Cardinal Beaton in 1542. Lord Ochiltree, eldest son of Stewart of Bothwell-muir, was also confined here. He was charged with having aimed at seizing the crown of Scotland, and was sentenced to imprisonment for life. After a lapse of twenty years he was released by the English. Blackness Castle was subsequently used as a place for the confinement of prisoners of war. Now-a-days, it is more ornamental than useful. Sergeant Brown, who is left in charge, "has been bred i' the wars," but knows not now what it is to have his "balmy slumbers waked with strife." Blackness itself, once "one of the keys of the kingdom," is little else than a sea-bathing village. There is here an infant school (Miss Chapman, teacher,) recently built and endowed. From various points in the Frith a favourable glimpse may be had of

DUNFERMLINE,

with its magnificent Abbey, intimately associated, like Queensferry, with the lives and journeyings of King Malcolm and Queen Margaret, and a favourite residence of Scottish kings. The date of the palace of Malcolm Canmore has been assigned by the venerable writer of the statistical account of the parish of Dunfermline (the Rev. Peter Chalmers,) to the period betwixt 1060 and 1070—the reign of Malcolm having commenced about 1057. The tower of Malcolm Canmore and the palace are the principal antiquities of Dunfermline, and visitors have every facility for an inspection of them. The Abbey was burned down, excepting the church and cells, by Edward I., in 1303. When the tomb of Robert Bruce was discovered, the skeleton of the illustrious monarch was found entire, together with the lead in which his body was wrapt, and even some fragments of his shroud. Within the Abbey's hallowed walls were interred the mortal remains of eight kings, five queens, six princes, and two princesses of Scotland. Near the centre of the Abbey Church-yard is pointed out "the Wallace hawthorn tree," the simple hawthorn, it is alleged,

having been planted by Wallace over the spot where were deposited the remains of his beloved mother. At the International Exhibition of this year Dunfermline damask has been favourably noticed. The table-linens of Messrs James Mathewson & Son, representing Balmoral and the stag-hunt; the Crimean heroes, represented in the productions of Messrs Dewar's firm; the samples from Mr George Birrel's factory, having the likeness of Her Majesty, the family crest of the Marquis of Breadalbane, the coat-of-arms of Wemyss of Wemyss and Torrie, &c., all evincing taste in the designer, and a delicacy of workmanship in the loom, eminently creditable to the damask manufacturers and intelligent operatives of Dunfermline. In the vicinity of Dunfermline are the celebrated Oakley Iron Works, the populous village of Oakley itself, being as nearly as possible a Roman Catholic colony. Two miles to the south of Dunfermline, and a mile north from the harbour of Charleston, may be seen, situated on a high lawn overlooking the village of Limekilns, and surrounded by extensive and richly-wooded undulating grounds,

BROOMHALL,

a Grecian building, the seat of the Right Hon. the Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, Governor-General of India, whose brother, General Bruce, Governor to the Prince of Wales, died last month at St James's Palace, London. Broomhall is a mansion of considerable extent, and contains many memorials of antiquity. A few fragments of statuary, brought to England from the Parthenon of Athens, by his Lordship's father, in 1814, are to be seen here, but the splendid collection, known as the Elgin Marbles, was purchased by the British Parliament for £35,000, and is now to be seen in the British Museum. 'Tis said that the adornment of the façade of the building with those valuable remains of ancient art formed part of the original plan of Broomhall. The number and value of the paintings in this mansion may be gathered from the names of the masters—Teniers, Snyders, Dusart, Ostade, Cigoli, Murillo, Vernet, Vandermeulen, Babt Schidone, Andrea del Sarto, Guido, Velasquez, Sebastian del Piombo, Lionardo da Vinci, Elzhemer, Carlo Dolce, Raphael Sanzio, Andrea Solari, Bernardo Cavallino, Van Goyen, Borgognone, Lusieri, Poelenburg, Claude Lorrain. In Broomhall is also to be seen the famous sword of King Robert the Bruce, the nuptial bed of Queen Anne, brought with her from Denmark on occasion of her union with James VI. in 1589, and there is an exquisite piece of tapestry work, begun October 1779,

and finished April 1780, representing "Belshazzar's Feast." The coast at this part of the Forth is chiefly rocky in its nature, and the portion of it immediately in front of Broomhall house, which is steep, is covered with fine wood. Bordering the beach is that finely-sheltered locality,

LIMEKILNS,

a neat, clean village, and at one time a considerable trade was carried on at its Brucehaven harbour. There is a place of worship here for those belonging to the United Presbyterian Church—the Rev. Dr Johnston being the able and popular minister of the congregation. An old house bears date 1551. There are useful societies for maimed and disabled seamen, and for the relief of widows and children.

CHARLESTON,

with its spacious harbour for exporting lime and coals, next claims notice. This prosperous village, with its rows of comfortable cottages and vegetable gardens, owes its origin to the father of the present Earl of Elgin, who had the houses built for the accommodation of the numerous families employed in connection with his coal mines and lime work. The Charleston lime, besides being used for ordinary buildings, is much preferred for those exposed to the action of water, as piers of bridges, sea-dykes, harbours, &c. Its excellent properties as a cement have been well tested. The wet docks at Leith and Dundee have been entirely built with it, and the contractors for Granton Pier found it every way suitable for a strong cement. The Earl of Elgin's seam of Limestone is within a quarter of a mile from the shore, and varies from 20 to 30 feet in thickness. About 400,000 bushels of shells, and 15,000 tons of raw stone are sold annually at Charleston. There is a line of railway from Charleston Harbour to the town of Dunfermline, under the direction of the West of Fife Mineral and Harbour Company. There is, in addition, quite a network of railways extending from Charleston to the various pits of the Elgin collieries, and Charleston harbour itself, good as it is, might be easily improved by being deepened. At Charleston, and at the Elgin colliery situated six miles to the north-west of Dunfermline, Lord Elgin has schools established which are supported by trifling sums contributed monthly by both the married and unmarried workmen. At

CROMBIEPOINT AND TORRYBURN

there is little that is specially noteworthy. On the road leading to Torryburn, are two drinking cups, for the convenience of the wayfarer, on the one is inscribed, "Drink and be thankful;" on the other are the words,

"Here's to you.—So be it." On the wooded heights above Torryburn will be perceived the mansion-house of Torry, formerly the property of Sir John Drummond Erskine, Bart., now belonging to his cousin, Captain Erskine Wemyss, of Wemyss Castle, M.P. for the county of Fife. Prominently planted on the brow of the hill may be seen

INZIEVAR HOUSE,

the residence of W. Smith Sligo, Esq., the proprietor of the Oakley Iron Works. Inzievar is a modern mansion in the Elizabethan style; commenced 1858, finished 1860; W. J. Bryce, Edinburgh, architect; Duncanson, Cairneyhill, builder. The steamer now proceeds across the river, and beyond Blackness Castle, but amid trees, may be observed

CARRIDEN HOUSE,

the seat of Admiral James Hope, a descendant of Rear-Admiral Sir George Hope, K.C.B., born 4th July 1767, son of the Hon. Charles Hope Vere, second son of Charles first Earl of Hopetoun. The present proprietor of Carriden was born 8th March 1808, married 16th August, 1838, the hon. Frederica Kinnaird, daughter of Charles, eighth Lord Kinnaird. This lady having died, Carriden House is occupied at the present time by Miss Hope, sister to the Admiral. There may also be noticed from this, on the top of a hill, a monument, erected in 1859, to the memory of a son of the late Earl of Hopetoun, who died in India. Passing Bridgeness and Grange pans, where coal from Carriden is largely shipped, the steamer arrives at that ancient seaport,

BORROWSTOUNNESS,

or as it is styled in abbreviated form, Bo'ness. There is here a large shipping trade, a wood-yard and saw-mill (Mr Melville, Torryburn); extensive chemical works and salt pans, (Mr Hughes); an iron foundry, (Robert Steel & Co.); a pottery, (John Marshall & Co.); an old-established distillery, (John & Andrew Vannan); while from the river the imposing appearance of the town-house, or public hall, at the head of the harbour attracts notice, and to the west of the town are the great Kinneil iron-works, owned by Wilson of Dundyvan. A branch from the main line of the Edinburgh and Glasgow railway runs down to these works and onwards to within a few feet of the harbour of Bo'ness. At this harbour, in addition to parrot and house coal, pig-iron from Dundyvan, Gartsherrie, Airdrie, and Kinneil, is shipped daily in large quantities for Dieppe, Rotterdam, Hamburg, London, Marseilles, Stettin, Copenhagen, &c. History assures us that it was at the fashionable end of Bo'ness, on 23d of December, 1679, that a man and five

women were burned for witchcraft. Viewed from the steamer, Bo'ness, being ceaselessly enveloped in smoke, has rather an uninviting appearance. Westward from Bo'ness is Kinneil House, a seat of the Duke of Hamilton, and presently the residence of the manager at Kinneil works. Near this spot, the river Avon, which divides Linlithgowshire from Stirlingshire, falls into the Forth. A few miles inland is Linlithgow, to which an omnibus runs daily. At a time when our country was governed by her native princes, Linlithgow was enlogised as "the Versailles of Scotland." In Linlithgow's "royal palace fair,"—a pile whose decayed splendour is still beauteous in ruin, Queen Mary was born, and in Linlithgow it was that David Hamilton of Bothwellhaugh, on the 23d of January, 1570, shot the Regent Murray, when passing through the town, in revenge for a private injury. Leaving Bo'ness, the steamer recrosses the river, and the village of

LOW-VALLEYFIELD

now appears, lying along the north shore. Behind is Valleyfield, a large and elegant mansion (Lady Hay Preston.) In this mansion may be seen an extensive collection of paintings, chiefly portraits of members of the Preston Family, amongst others, Sir George Preston, third Baronet of Valleyfield, painted in 1724; Anne Lady Preston (1720) Agnes Lady Preston, (1699); Sir John Preston of Valleyfield, (1600); Earl and Countess of Kincardine, (1690); William Cochrane of Ochiltree, (1728); Lady Mary Cochrane, mother of Anne Lady Preston, (1739); Lieut. General George Preston, Commander-in-Chief of the Forces in Scotland, and Lieutenant Governor of Edinburgh Castle (obit 1748); Earl of Dundonald (1669); Thomas Earl of Dundonald, (1770); Captain Charles Preston, son of Sir William Preston, Bart., (1690); Hugh Semple (1652); Lady M'Gill, daughter of Sir George Preston, (1630); Sir James M'Gill of Rankeillour (1700); John Earl of Dundonald, father of Anne, Duchess of Hamilton; Marion Lady Anstruther, daughter of Sir William Preston, Bart., (1712); General James Cochrane, (1740); Sir Robert Anstruther, Bart., of Balcaskie, (1712.) On the west of the village of Valleyfield is the site, but with scarcely any vestiges, of three important works, carried on, in the end of last century, by Lord Dundonald, a man of inventive genius, and distinguished scientific attainments—sometimes called the father of agricultural chemistry, whose son was the late renowned naval hero, Admiral Dundonald. One of these works was a manufactory for the preservation of sal ammonia; another,

for the extraction of tar and other products from pit coal ; and the third, a foundry. It was while engaged in the second of these that his Lordship, about 1782, made the discovery of coal-gas. Now comes into view the town of

CULROSS,

Erected into a burgh of barony in 1484, when John Hog was abbot of the monastery, and made a Royal Burgh in 1588. It is pleasantly situated on a steep bank sloping down to the margin of the river, and is embosomed among gardens and orchards. It is sheltered from the north winds, is reckoned a pleasant residence, has a high character for salubrity, and the neighbourhood abounds in a variety of pleasant walks. Upwards of a century ago, the coalworks of Culross were the most important of any on the north bank of the Forth, and were wrought considerably within sea-mark, but the mines are now deserted. Although the prosperity of this burgh has long been confessedly on the wane, it was once a place of moderate commercial importance. The Parish Church of Culross, and the noble Abbey contiguous to it, will not fail to attract notice, occupying as they do so commanding a site. Balgownie House (Captain Cunninghame), stands on the west of the town, on the shore ; the Park (Miss Davidson), and Clifton (A. L. Wardlaw, Esq.), on the hill above. Duni-marle Castle (Mrs S. Erskine), is on a bold projection, farther west ; and a little further still, Blair Castle (Mrs Gallway) ; the old House, reported to have been taken down in the beginning of this century, is said to have been built by Archbishop Hamilton ; the Sands, (Jas. Johnstone, Esq.) ; Burnbrae (W. Menzies, Esq.) Further on is

KINCARDINE.

It is the sage observation of Samuel Johnson that "where there is no commerce or manufacture he that is born poor can scarcely become rich," and Kincardine, as a town, is very much in this predicament. Though the place is specially noticed in another part of this book, it never could boast of either its commerce or manufactures, and its staple trade, shipbuilding, has not only of late years greatly declined, but the census returns show that the population is markedly on the decrease, and that the locality is by no means an improving one. Tulliallan Castle, the princely residence of Baroness Keith and the Count Flahault, will here be viewed with interest, occupying as it does a site which commands a charming view of the scenery of the Forth. Count Flahault, as is well known, is at present the French Ambassador to England. He fought at Water-

loo, and supported his imperial master in the saddle out of the fatal melee, along the road to Paris. Two years subsequent to Napoleon's deportation to St Helena, Flahault became almost an Englishman, through his marriage with the Baroness Keith and Nairne, a daughter of this union being now married to Earl Shelburne, son and heir to the venerable Lord Lansdowne. Opposite Kincardine is

POWFOULIS HOUSE,

A modern erection, built about thirty years ago by the late Mr Bruce of Powfoulis. This estate was first possessed by Archd. Bruce, a grandson of Bruce of Airth Castle, who got a charter from his father Robert Bruce of Auchencbowie of the lands and barony of Powfoulis in 1512. His grandson, Sir James, rebuilt the old mansion-house, and there are his arms and supporters remaining with the following inscription—Sir James Bruce 1660, and the motto "Faithful." A grandson of this Sir James was slain at Dunbar fighting for King Charles I. He was ancestor of the late Mr Bruce of Powfoulis, who sold the estate to William Dawson, Esq., the manager of the Carron Iron Company. The old entrance gate of Powfoulis remains, on each side of which are carved the arms of Bruce, and the motto "Faithful," and on the other the date 1683. In a clean and comfortable bothie on this small estate may be seen, what is rarely to be found now in the lowlands of Scotland, and probably nowhere else along the banks of the Forth, a "cradle-chimney," with the smoke curling up from the fire through an aperture in the roof, and the inmates of an evening sitting in the centre of the floor enjoying themselves around their homely ingle. Some distance inland, on same side of the Forth, is the town of

FALKIRK

the capital of the eastern district of Stirlingshire, standing about equi-distant from the cities of Edinburgh and Glasgow. The district of Falkirk is celebrated as having been the theatre of memorable battles on behalf of Scottish independence; it is distinguished for its maintenance of the principles of political and religious liberty; and claims to be the birth-place of several illustrious Scotchmen. Falkirk has long been famous for its Trysts, or markets for cattle, sheep, and horses; it is also known as a place of considerable trade. The Falkirk Iron works at Grahamston, belonging to Kennaird & Sons; Castle Lowrie Iron works owned by G. Hardie; the Carron works, along with establishments of lesser magnitude, contribute much to uphold the prosperity of the district. The *Falkirk Herald*, the property

of Mr Archd. Johnston, has attained a high position, not only as the consistent advocate of the principles and measures of the Liberal party, but from the attention given to questions affecting the social welfare of the community. In the vicinity of Falkirk, near to Carron, may be seen

KINNAIRD HOUSE,

the birth-place and residence of James Bruce, the Abyssinian traveller. Strange indeed that the distinguished traveller, Bruce, after having successfully braved all the dangers attendant upon his tracing the sources of the Nile, after having escaped the treachery of savage men, and fled for his life before the fury of wild beasts, should after all have met his death by accidentally stumbling down the steps of the stair at the threshold of his own dwelling. Nearer to the Forth, and the banks of the Carron, stand the famous

CARRON IRON WORKS

an establishment of great magnitude and of European celebrity. The cycle of a century has now revolved since the formation of the Carron Iron Company, and while from the first this establishment gave a marked impetus in Scotland to industry and speculation, the Company have gone on with growing prosperity till at the present time employment is afforded at the works to well nigh three thousand work-people : miners, moulders, masons, brick-layers, carpenters, joiners, tinsmiths, pattern-makers, &c. As giving some idea of the colossal proportions of one of the condensing steam-engines, it may be stated that the beam alone weighs eighteen tons, the entablature across the two columns weighing nine tons. For this engine a building has been erected measuring 50 feet in length by 24 feet in breadth. Every description of cast-iron goods is here produced—the instruments of war and the implements of agriculture, cylinders for steam-engines, sugar-pans for the West Indies, down to the domestic “smoothing-iron,” grates, and mountings. Pig-iron or manufactured goods can be conveyed in barges from the Carron to the docks at Grangemouth, a distance of three miles, and from the works onwards to Camelon Bridge there is a line of railway. Admission to these works is not every day or at all times to be had, and Robert Burns himself leaves it on record that he experienced the indignity of having been refused, but generally there is little difficulty in obtaining the requisite pass. If the sight calls forth wonder during the day, not less should it do so in the evening when the glowing fires of the works illumine the atmosphere, and which by its brilliancy attracts observation for many miles around.

GRANGEMOUTH,

situated at the junction of the Forth and Clyde canal, with the river Carron at its mouth, demands notice. Grangemouth was begun in 1777 by Sir Lawrence Dundas, ancestor of Lord Dundas, created Earl of Zetland on the occasion of the coronation of Queen Victoria, and its rapid extension of late years, attributable chiefly to the enterprise of the merchant princes of Glasgow, reminds one of the growth of the city of Birkenhead. At Carronmouth, distant three miles from Grangemouth harbour, a lighthouse will be observed, and it is now about fifteen years since this useful erection was placed there. The narrow stream of approach to Grangemouth has been embanked on both sides, so that at full tide there is ample depth of water to allow loaded vessels to ascend. The steamers trading regularly betwixt Grangemouth and London are five in number, and these are all owned by the Carron Iron Company, whose first steamer was placed on the passage in 1851, chiefly for the transport of their own goods, but also intended for the conveyance of passengers. At Grangemouth, in addition to the shipbuilding trade, there are spacious warehouses for goods, a dry dock, a custom house, rope and sail works, &c., while, to meet the requirements of an increasing trade, a spacious new dock was constructed about three years ago for the Forth and Clyde Canal Company, by Thomas Paterson, builder, Alloa. From the harbour there is a railway which joins the main line of the Edinburgh and Glasgow, and it is not unusual to see nearly 300 loaded waggons arrive at the port in one day, containing minerals and goods from Gartsherrie, Calder, Cairnbrowe, Coltness, and Shotts iron-works, as also gas coal from Torbanehill and Leshmahagow. From Grangemouth to Glasgow by the Forth and Clyde Canal is twenty-nine miles, and though there are twenty locks and twenty bridges, goods shipped in London on Saturday are delivered in Glasgow on Tuesday morning. On the arrival of the large steamers at the docks, the goods are transhipped on board lighters or small screw steamers, and these at once proceed along the canal to Glasgow. Passing onwards

AIRTH

will be noticed, its white cottages reposing near the peaceful beach, and the parish church a prominent object. In the village is an old market cross on which are carved the arms of Elphinstone and Bruce, quartered with the letters R E · J B and date 1697—on the other side, the arms of Elphinstone only and letters C E. There are also several very old houses.

AIRTH CASTLE,

the property of the Grahams, whose ancestors purchased it in the early part of last century from the Dundas family, will be admired for its situation ; and from its importance, more ample reference is made to it in another part of this book. The large square tower on the left of the castle is believed to have been built previous to the battle of Falkirk in 1298. Nearly opposite to the parish of Airth is

KENNET HOUSE.

Situated on a rising ground, it overlooks the basin of the Forth, and comes favourably into view. It is a modern mansion and is the property of Robert Bruce, Esq., formerly member for and now Vice-Lieutenant of the county of Clackmannan. It originally formed part of the barony of Clackmannan, and has been possessed for an uninterrupted succession by the ancestors of the present proprietor for upwards of 500 years. Sir Robert de Bruce, to whom King David granted these and other lands in 1359, gave Kennet, by a charter dated 2d May 1389, to Thomas de Bruce, his second son. At the close of the sixteenth century, the then Robert Bruce, the laird of Kennet, left an only daughter and heiress, who married her kinsman, Archibald Bruce, a cadet of the house of Clackmannan, and thus carried on the line of the family. His grandson, Robert Bruce of Kennet left, with other issue, David his heir, and Alexander of Garlet. David left a son, General James Bruce, who at one time commanded the forces in Scotland. There is an excellent portrait of him among the family pictures at Kennet House. His son served with great distinction in Marlborough's wars, and married the Hon. Mary Balfour, daughter of Lord Burleigh ; and their son, who became a Lord of Session, was the grandfather of the present proprietor. The Burleigh Peerage was attained in 1716 in the person of Robert, fifth Lord, and the representation is claimed by Mr Bruce of Kennet, the heir of line ; also by Francis Balfour, Esq. of Fernie, the heir male of the body of Lady Burleigh. Mr Bruce has had his claims before the Committee for Privileges, by order of Her Majesty, and meantime it is admitted that he "has much in his favor."

KENNET-PANS

Will now be observed on the margin of the northern bank of the Forth. It was the old mansion of the Steins who for the past century have been connected with distilling in this district. It is now occupied by Mr John Sword, for-

merly of Leith, who has adapted it to the purposes of a reformatory for individuals who, having led a somewhat intemperate life, have come hither of their own accord, or been placed here by friends, in the hope that the retirement of the locality, the exclusion from scenes of excitement or dissipation, and the salutary regulations of the establishment, may unite in effecting not only a moral but a physical reformation. At Kennet-Pans there is a free port for Kilbagie Works. Northwards from this may be seen

KILBAGIE HOUSE,

a large mansion, having been erected at various times, and of late years much improved. At Kilbagie, previous to 1780, the distillation of spirits carried on at this work was more extensive than any known in Britain. The produce was chiefly forwarded to London and found a ready sale in that market. In the year 1788, the quantity of corn used at Kilbagie was 60,000 bolls. In 1809, the celebrated Earl of Dundonald became proprietor of Kilbagie. It was afterwards repurchased by the Steins. The work-people numbered from 400 to 500, out of which a respectable Volunteer corps was formed both horse and foot. In 1829, B. G. Hodges, the great London rectifier, became the purchaser, at the price of £27,800, and in 1856 it became the property of W. Downing Bruce, Esq., barrister-at-law, and was converted into a chemical work for the manufacture of artificial manures, which stand high for their excellence among the agriculturists of England and Scotland. The estate of Kilbagie has recently been exposed to sale by public auction, first in one lot, and afterwards in separate properties. There now comes into notice

DUNMORE HOUSE,

the seat of the Right Hon. the Earl of Dunmore who attained his majority so recently as the 24th of March last, at which time his Lordship was with his regiment in Canada. The Countess of Dunmore, the mother of the young Earl, has long endeared herself to all connected with the estate by her kindly disposition and her unwearied acts of beneficence. At her own expense she built and endowed St Andrew's Episcopal chapel, close to the old Elphinstone Tower, (both chapel and tower may be seen from the river,) where the family and the tenantry might regularly worship. The village of Dunmore itself contains many new and comfortable cottages, and it is expected that in a few years all the old tenements in the village will have disappeared, and new dwelling-houses be substituted in their room for the benefit of the work-people and others resident on the estate.

CLACKMANNAN TOWER,

Finely situated on a bold eminence, and commanding a noble view, will not fail to invite attention. Appearances considered, it is probably as well that the small decayed town itself is not seen from the steamer. Clackmannan is indeed the county town of the shire to which it gives its name, but all judicial business is transacted in Alloa, the chief town of the county. The Tower is still a stately structure, although long since the Palace of Robert Bruce attached to it has passed away. Bruce lived here in regal splendour, and here it was that Robert Burns, in 1787, had the honour of knighthood conferred on him, by an old lady remarkable for her wit and good humour, Mrs Catherine Bruce of Clackmannan, with the two-handed sword of her great ancestor. The pilgrim who visits this ancient Castle, or who views the stone-cross in the centre of the town which the inhabitants preserve with reverence, as in some way a memorial of their civic rights, may feel his patriotism exalted, and own the appeal of the poet :—

“ Once more to Freedom’s cause return
The patriot Tell, the Bruce of Bannockburn.”

ALLOA HOUSE AND ALLOA TOWER,

The former the seat of the Right Hon. the Earl of Mar and Kellie, will here be seen to much advantage. It is an elegant modern structure in the Grecian style, and contains a very large and valuable collection of portraits of the Mar Family and their relatives. The beautiful white freestone of which this mansion is built was procured from a quarry in Alloa Park. The venerable Tower, “grey with the mist of years,” is a hoary relic of the 13th century. Here the unfortunate Queen Mary spent some days in her early youth, ere her heart was untouched by care, or her cheek worn with tears; here she sojourned with the luckless Darnley, and tended the footsteps of the infant monarch James,—remembrances which will haunt and hallow the old pile of Alloa Tower after its feudal glory is forgotten.

“ Reader! within those walls have mighty peers,
Beauties now long in dust, through dances led;
And yon green tree, moss grown, and dry with years,
Once shaded Mary’s lovely hapless head.
O ill-starred Queen!
Matchless in beauty as in woe!
Oft by musing fancy seen
Her spirit comes; while sad and slow
I wander here beneath the moon’s pale beams,
And winds and murmur’ing waters soothe my dream.”

Passing Forthbank, and the old “Bethel” where seamen

were wont to congregate on Sundays for Divine worship, the steamer in a few minutes is moored at the quay of

ALLOA.

The new and capacious wet dock, now in course of construction by Mr T. Paterson, builder, the high loading berth at the pier, the shipping both at north and south Alloa, the extensive wood-yards, the loading and discharging berths for the Alloa and Leith, and Grangemouth and London packets, the broad open space which the wharf presents for the landing of goods from the vessels moored against it, the Alloa bonded warehouse, shipbuilding-yard and graving-dock, the vast cones of the glassworks, its iron foundry, and the brick and tile works, the shipping of coal to foreign ports, and the discharging of cargoes of grain for the local breweries and distilleries, operations almost continuously going on, must on a first view indicate to the stranger a place of some importance and considerable trade. It is the diversity of that trade which prevents the town of Alloa from so sensibly experiencing those commercial fluctuations and depressions which too frequently befall localities whose prosperity is mainly dependent on one particular branch of trade. During the few minutes the steamer may remain at the harbour, the tourist can venture on a short perambulation, and have time not only to get a glimpse of the noble avenue of lofty trees (beautiful when seen in all the richness of their autumnal tints), known as the Lime Tree Walk, which is approached from the Shore, but also to partake of a glass of Alloa Ale—that choice beverage which both in English and Scotch markets, is daily sold and accepted as something in advance of the genuine Burton product. So much for its refreshing, stimulating and strengthening properties. Again on board, and as the steamer recedes from the harbour, a favourable view of the westward portion of the town of Alloa is obtained. The ornate steeple of the Parish Church, the spire of the Free Church, and Townhead U.P. place of worship, become prominent features, while the assemblage of modern mansions, pretty villas, and park scenery, indicative in some degree of wealth and comfort, with the pleasing picture bounded by the neighbouring Ochil hills, may lead one to the conclusion, long since arrived at by some of the local magnates, that he who adopts Alloa as his residence, and does his duty, will assuredly come to like the place. In ascending the river, the steamer takes the benefit of the flowing tide by keeping on the north side of that island, with rich alluvial soil, known as “Alloa Inch.” We now pass

ALLOA FERRY,

across which it was proposed, in 1817, to construct a Bridge, "providing the sum of £150,000 shall be advanced by Government, certain subscribers binding themselves, their heirs, and successors, to guarantee the payment of the yearly interest at five per cent." In 1844, -45, during the railway mania, a prospectus was issued for the construction of a Bridge, capital £100,000 in £20 shares. But this second effort also proved a failure, and the scheme is not likely to be soon revived. The Ferry is the property of the Earl of Mar, but the traffic upon it, at one time great, has all but disappeared, there being now no steamer on the passage for the conveyance of goods and passengers. The steamer was removed and sold by the Edinburgh and Glasgow railway company. On the south side of the Ferry, is

SOUTH ALLOA,

a free port for shipping, and a place of growing importance, which cannot be overlooked in a "Trip up the Forth." By vessels from London, the Baltic, and the whole of the northern continent, discharging their goods at South Alloa, Glasgow and other shippers are saved the very heavy shore dues to which they are subject at Leith. Railway trucks can here be brought to the vessel's side, filled, and sent to Glasgow in about a couple of hours. A branch of the Scottish Central Railway extends from South Alloa to Glenbervie Station (Alloa Junction), the distance being $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and this Alloa Branch was opened for traffic on the 2d September, 1850. But since the Edinburgh and Glasgow railway Coy. found themselves compelled, in 1853, by a judgment of the House of Lords, to implement their valid lease of the Stirling and Dunfermline line, their interest in the Alloa Ferry and the South Alloa Branch ceased, and was transferred to the new section of their own line, which it would seem is best worked to advantage by the railway at South Alloa being kept as a "block line," and increasing the mileage by sending goods and passengers round by Stirling. But the good steamer, having passed Longcarse, has now fairly entered the "bonnie Links o' Forth,"—

"The winding Forth—smooth wandering tide,
O' Strevlin's peerless plain the pride."

THE THROSK,

the property of Mr Cunningham of Balgonie and Throsk, becomes a note-worthy place, and the mansion-house of the estate is occupied by an intelligent agriculturist, Mr Thos. Jeffrey. In the course of the present century, eight or ten Scottish pulpits have been honourably filled by clergymen

whose birth-place was the Throsk, two or three prosperous citizens of Edinburgh were born here, and the visitor may have the thatched cottage pointed out to him where that much-respected Edinburgh publisher, the late Mr Thomas Nelson, first saw the light of day. The remains of a nunnery are also to be seen here, which edifice was the frequent resort of residents at the Abbey of Cambuskenneth; a field is pointed out where in a by-gone age a number of copies of the Bible was consigned to the flames, and there are the ruins of a mill at which corn was ground 35 years ago. At the Throsk will be seen the second oldest tile-work in Scotland. Here are turned out annually not less than 300,000 roofing tiles, being a greater quantity than at any other tile-work along the banks of the Forth, and they are prized for their durable properties. No artist could desire a more choice landscape for his canvas than that embraced from Clackmannan Tower to Stirling Castle, as viewed from the Throsk, with the beauteous back-ground of the Ochils in all their verdant undulations. Passing 'Tullibody Inches,' or islands, owned by Lord Abercromby,

TULLIBODY HOUSE,

a seat of the Right Hon. Lord Abercromby, is approached. It is pleasantly situated amid aged and stately forest trees, and is a mansion of much interest as identified with the history of the ancient village of Tullibody, and successive members of the noble family of Abercromby. Here, in the year 1705, was born George Abercromby, called to the Scottish bar in 1728, and who died at Edinburgh on the 8th of June, 1800, being then in the 95th year of his age. Having lived to so great an age, and in the full possession of all his intellectual faculties, he enjoyed the felicity of seeing his sons attain high legal and military fame. Under the section of this book devoted to "Churches and Cemeteries," will be found a notice of the lamented Sir Ralph, (George Abercromby's eldest son), with inscription on monument to his memory. Further along, the steamer sweeps past the mansion-house of

BANDEATH.

This small estate, embracing three farms, was at one time the property of the Abercromby family, but was sold fourteen or fifteen years ago to Mr Murray of Polmaise. Proceeding up the river, we see the tributary stream of

THE DEVON

Discharging itself into the Forth. "The clear-winding Devon" takes its rise in the Ochil hills a little to the east

of Sheriffmuir, in the parish of Blackford, and after flowing ten miles in an easterly direction, takes a westerly course at Crook-of-Devon, and afterwards joins the Rumbling Bridge group of waterfalls. Meandering through fertile fields and grassy plains, it falls into the Forth at Cambus. Near this place it was that a great shoal of whales ran ashore, in the month of March, 1826. In *Blackwood's Magazine* for November 1828, the Ettrick Shepherd has a ballad, entitled "the Goode Maune of Allowa, ane most strange and treuthfulle Ballande, made by Mr Hougge," and in allusion to the extraordinary herd of whales which had a few months previously ascended the river, he says—

"Ane hundred and threttye bordlye whailis
Went snoryng up the tydde,
And wyde on Allowai's fertyllie holmis
The gallopit ashore and died."

Hogg himself, who saw the whales, thus writes—"As this is likely to be the only part of my *Ballande* the veracity of which may be disputed, I assure the reader that it is a literal fact; and that, with one tide in the month of March, one year lately, there were no fewer than 130 whales left ashore in the vicinity of Alloa. The people called them young ones; but to me they appeared to have been immense fishes. Their skeletons at a distance were like those of large horses. There were two old ones ran up as far as the mill-dam of Cambus, on the Devon, where the retreating tide left them, and where, after a day's severe exercise and excellent sport to a great multitude, they were both slain, along with a young one, which one of the old ones used every effort to defend, and when she saw it attacked she bellowed most fearfully. But, moreover, on testifying my wonder one day to the men of Cambus why the whales should all have betaken them to the dry land, I was answered by a sly fellow, that a mermaid had been seen driving them up the Frith, which had frightened them so much, it had put them all out of their judgments." In August 1850, near the narrow creek where the confluence of the Forth and the Devon takes place, a herd of no less than 37 "whales" was speared and captured after an exciting chase. The species was allied to the porpoise, termed the Grampus (*Phocæna Orca*), varying in length from 10 to 20 feet, and in circumference from 4 to 10 feet. The captors kept them for some days expecting to realize a small fortune by the sale of them, and then fearing that by keeping them too long, the whales were likely to depreciate in value and prove a bad stock, sold them an "alarming sacrifice" to a Bo'ness merchant. The steamer has now passed

CAMBUS

famous alike for its distillery, the property of R. Moubray and its ale-brewery, belonging to Robert Knox & Son.

THE ABBEY CRAIG,

on whose summit it is proposed to rear a monument to commemorate the military renown of Sir William Wallace, may about this part of the river be advantageously seen, and a glimpse had of the progress, such as it is, the operations have yet made. The monument, when erected, may assist in keeping in perennial flow the spring-tide flood of Scottish blood which the poet imagines as ever accompanying the mention of the name of the great Scottish hero. In all coming time, and to all who may be led to traverse these windings, not more renowned will be the name of Tell along the Lake of Lucerne, than that of Wallace along the banks of the Forth. On the margin of the river is

POLMAISE,

The mansion-house of John Murray, Esq. The Murray family has been seated for centuries in the county of Stirling, and is supposed to derive from the noble House of Bothwell. Its patriarch, Sir William de Moravia, designed of Sandford, joined Robert Bruce in defence of the liberties of his country, but having been taken prisoner by the English, was sent to London in 1306, and remained in captivity there until exchanged after the battle of Bannockburn. The present proprietor of the estate was united in marriage about ten years ago to Lady Agnes-Caroline, eldest daughter of the Duke of Montrose. His father died in London in April last, and was interred, on the 23d of that month in the family burying-ground at St Ninians. Murray of Polmaise is probably the largest landholder in the county of Stirling, his estates embracing Touchadam and Polmaise, as well as South Garve in the county of Ross. The tourist will now be gratified with the sight of a noble fragment of antiquity, of which, from the windings of the river, he has had a glimpse already, namely,

CAMBUSKENNETH ABBEY.

The splendid monastic establishment of Cambuskenneth, founded in the year 1147, by David the First, King of Scotland, was built on the very spot where his royal ancestor, Kenneth, gave the fatal blow to the Pictish dominion, and was intended for canons regular of the order of St Augustine. Seven centuries have gone since it was founded, and two since it was demolished by the zealous Reformers. Little now remains of this great Abbey except

a massive square tower, and an ornamented arched-doorway, with adjacent building. The steamer is now at

STIRLING.

"Grey Stirling with her towers and town"—identified with the grandest scenes in our Scottish history, with events of great political and ecclesiastical importance, with brilliant exploits in arms for Scottish independence, as well as heroic deeds and painful sufferings for the vindication of religious freedom and the rights of conscience.

The sweeps and bends in the river, betwixt Alloa and Stirling are very numerous and very beautiful. Town and tower, castle and crag, hill and dale, church and abbey, ever seem to the steam-boat passenger to be making topographical transpositions, effected silently as the varying changes of the kaleidoscope, heightening not a little the romantic interest of the excursion. The highly cultivated fields, the flowery pastures and waving harvests, presented to view from the deck of the steamer, the pleasant homes and comfortable farm-steads on the margin of the level banks, vessels with whitened sails passing along with the running stream, and the foliaged trees, scattered in belts over the fields or bordering the water's edge, contribute their own peculiar charm to the scene, and form agreeable auxiliaries to the pleasures of the trip.

The situation of Stirling, with its back ground of distant mountains, is beautiful and imposing, and the tourist will soon find himself in the midst of a busy and opulent population. He will ascend the Castle, and there, from the esplanade, behold a panorama at once extensive, interesting, and splendid. "I have no doubt," says Kohl, the German traveller, and he speaks with authority, "that the prospect from Stirling Castle is the finest of the kind in Great Britain, and as she is the finest kingdom in Europe, so the fairest wreath is due to this Castle. The extraordinary beauty of the scenery must excuse me to my reader if I once more revert to the subject. The semicircular windings of the Forth are particularly lovely. The little peninsulas formed by these windings are called 'links,' from their resemblance to the links in a chain, and are so fertile that they are the subject of the following old rhyme—

'Ae link o' the Forth
Is worth an earldom o' the North.'

Although the season was pretty far advanced, yet these links were covered with the fairest and freshest green."

A BOAT RACE.

Mr N. P. Willis, the well-known American writer, in the course of a tour through Scotland, a number of years ago, made an excursion by steam-boat from Stirling to Granton, but the only experiences of the trip with which this clever writer favours us is the following amusing description of a race on the river in the days when there was competition betwixt two rival steam-boat companies. Mr Willis says—

I was delighted to find Stirling rather worse than Albany in the matter of steamers. I had a running fight for my portmanteau and carpet-bag from the hotel to the pier, and was at last embarked in entirely the wrong boat, by sheer force of pulling and lying. They could scarce have put me in a greater rage between Cruttenden's and the Overslaugh.

The two rival steamers, the Victoria and the Benlomond, got under weigh together: the former, in which I was a compulsory passenger, having a flageolet and a brass-drum by way of a band, and the other a dozen lusty performers and most of the company. The river was very narrow and the tide down, and though the other seemed the better boat, we had the bolder pilot, and were lighter laden and twice as desperate. I found my own spunk stirred irresistibly after the first mile. We were contending against odds, and there was something in it that touched my Americanism nearly. We had three small boys mounted on the box over the wheel, who cheered and waved their hats at our momentary advantages; but the channel was full of windings, and if we gained on the larboard tack we lost on the starboard. Whenever we were quite abreast, and the wheels touched with the narrowness of the river, we marched our flageolet and bass-drum close to the enemy and gave them a blast "to wake the dead," taking occasion, during our moments of defeat, to recover breath and ply the principal musician with beer and encouragement. It was a scene for Cooper to describe. The two pilots stood broad on their legs, every muscle on the alert; and although Benlomond wore the cleaner jacket, Victoria had the "varminter" look. You would have bet on Victoria to have seen the man. He was that wickedest of all wicked things, a wicked Scotchman—a sort of saint turned sinner. The expression of early good principles was glazed over with drink and recklessness, like the scene from the Inferno painted over a Madonna of Raphael's. It was written in his face that he was a transgressor against knowledge. We were, perhaps, a dozen passengers, exclusive of the boys, and we rallied round our Bardolph-nosed hero and applauded his skilful manœuvres; sun, steam, and excitement together, producing a temperature on deck that left nothing to dread from the boiler. As we approached a sharp bend in the course of the stream, I perceived by the countenance of our pilot, that it was to be a critical moment. The Benlomond was a little ahead, but we had the advantage of the inside of the course, and very soon, with the commencement of the curve, we gained sensibly on the enemy, and I saw clearly that we would cut her off by a half-boat's length. The three boys on the wheel began to shout, the flageolet made all split again with "the Campbells are comin'," the bass-drum was never so belaboured, and "Up with your helm!" cried every voice, as we came at the rate of twelve miles in the hour sharp on to the angle of mud and bulrushes, and, to our utter surprise, the pilot jammed down her tiller, and ran the battered nose of the Victoria plump in upon the enemy's forward quarter! The next moment we were going it like mad down the middle of the river, and far astern stuck the Benlomond in the mud, her paddles driving her deeper at every stroke, her music hushed, and the crowd on her deck standing speechless with amazement. The flageolet and bass-drum marched aft and played louder than ever, and we were soon in the open Frith, getting on merrily, but without competition, to the sleeping isle of Inchkeith. Lucky Victoria! luckier pilot! to have found an historian! How many a red-nosed Palinurus—how many a bass-drum and flageolet, have done their duty as well, yet achieved no immortality!

CHURCHES AND CEMETERIES.*

"In the heart of the remotest mountains rises the little kirk; the dead all slumbering round it under their white memorial stones, in hope of a happy resurrection."—*Thomas Carlyle.*

IN the belief that the nearer the walls of the consecrated church, the safer the congregation of the dead, communities who lived in a superstitious age generally had their places of interment contiguous to, or surrounding, their places of worship. In provincial districts, the church-yard is still too frequently an appurtenance to the church, but such places of interment, however much they may have commended themselves to the people of an unenlightened age, are justly disapproved of and condemned in modern times. There was danger to the health of the living from having their dwelling-places in populous cities and towns in close proximity to the resting-places of the dead, and the mass of deleterious effluvia exhaled from the over-crowded burial-ground was everywhere demonstrated to be the cause of manifold evils and a greatly increased mortality. The propriety of selecting burial-places at convenient distances from the midst of the busy throng, became lamentably apparent, and mainly to this circumstance are we indebted in modern times for those beautiful cemeteries which adorn the environs of so many of our Scottish towns and cities.

Religious edifices, as is truly observed by Dr Johnson, are instructive objects of contemplation, while visits to the last resting-places of the loved or honoured dead, naturally give rise to pleasing and soothing as well as mournful thought. It is quite true, in the sense in which we have it in the words of inspiration, that "there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave," but knowledge and wisdom to the living may be acquired both by him who can say with the poet—

"I love to linger in the narrow field
Of rest; to wander round from tomb to tomb
And think of some who silent sleep below,"—

or who peruses in a right spirit the records of the dead as seen in the tributes of affectionate sorrow, whether as found on the rude grave-stone in the village church-yard, or in the more imposing tablet or cenotaph in the modern cemetery.

* In a notice, at p. 46, of Alloa Cemetery, for *flower-ground* read *flower-garden*.

CRAMOND Parish church is a small building, more commodious than ornamental, and like many of the parish churches in provincial districts of the country, is in the midst of the burial-ground. But the ground, which is partially environed with trees, is well kept, and though small, will afford any one pleasure to walk through it. There are several interesting monuments here, as the following five inscriptions will show, and some of the older ones are richly sculptured. The oldest tablet of all has these lines :

Salvis . the . Sarr . vs . timor . domini.

Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord sayeth the Holy Spirit.

Blessed and holy is he that hath part in the first Resurrection.

Heir . Lys . JOHN . STALKER . of . Easter . Drylaw,
an true and lively paterne of piety and probity,
wha died 6 Feby. æt. 60 AN. DO. 1608.

Here Lyes ALEXANDER HOUISON of Braehead,
who died 18th April 1703, his age 63 years, also MARTHA his Spouse,
who died January - 1704, hir age 63 years, and
WILLIAM HOWISON of Braehead, who died 20th Feby. 1729,
aged 63 ; also JOHN HOWISON of Braehead, who
died 13th May 1757, and
Mrs ELIZABETH CRAWFURD of Crawfordland, who died 18th
January 1802, aged 67.

Pro Rege et Patria.

The Family burial-place of the AINSLIES of Pilton and Dolphington.

GEORGE ROBERT AINSLIE, Lieut.-General,
obit 16th April, 1839, ætati 64, also in memory of
FREDERIC GEORGE AINSLIE, Lieut.-Colonel, C. B.,

Younger Son of the above,
who died at Scutari on the 14th November 1854, aged 45 years, of a
wound received at the Battle of Inkermann, on 5th Nov. 1854,
when commanding the 21st or Royal North British Fusileers.
He was a good man, a perfect gentleman, and a gallant soldier.

"Only by Christ cometh salvation."

THE REV. GEORGE MUIRHEAD, D.D.,

Successively Minister of Dysart and of this Parish,

Died on the 5th April 1847, in the 84th year of his age, and the 59th
of his Ministry.

Being "fully persuaded in his own mind,"

He was steadfast to the Principles of THE DISRUPTION, and
was the first who signed the Deed of Demission.

He was emphatically a man of faith, a man of prayer, a man of God.

Earnest and affectionate, knowing the terrors of the Lord,
He sought to win souls to Christ by the grace and love of the Gospel,
Himself a living epistle of the truths which he taught,

Here Lyes the body of SIR JAMES HOPE of Hopetoun,
who deceased 1661.

ABERDOUR has two burial-places, the old and the new ; the old is in a miserable condition ; the new, which is in much better order, surrounds the Parish church. The virtues of some who sleep below are chronicled in curious rhyme.

ABERCORN had at one time a monastery, and a castle that was used as a Roman fort. The present Parish church, which has been frequently repaired, bears date 1618. A stone in the burial-ground was placed there 1699, but there are memorial tablets of an earlier date. There is one with the following lines in memory of a happy wife and mother :

The law brought forth its precepts ten, and then dissolv'd in grace,
This vine as many boughs, and then in glory took her place.

The Free Church place of worship is situated at a small village called Woodend, and was built at the Disruption.

DALMENY CHURCH is a very ancient structure and will well repay a visit. Mr Billings describes it as in the purest Norman style, and as a simple quadrangular edifice, without tower, aisles, or transepts. The windows have all the small Norman arch, with toothed mouldings. On either side of the entrance door are the remains of a statue, and in the porch of the doorway lies one of those stone coffins, frequently found near ancient Scottish churches. The interior of this small church has a fine massive simple effect. The fabric was repaired, and so far as restoration seemed necessary, put into its present condition in 1816. The place of interment presents to the visitor no special feature.

In **SOUTH QUEENSFERRY** there are only two places of worship, both well attended and both plain edifices,—the Parish church of which the Rev. T. Andrews is minister, and the United Presbyterian church of which the pastor is the Rev. David Williamson. The burial-ground is flanked on the north side by the Parish church, and on the south side by the parochial and infant schools. Some of the grave-stones bear such dates as 1633, 1674, and 1685, but there are others obviously still older.

In the church-yard of the parish of **CARRIDEN**, as in that at South Queensferry, there is need of the application of a scythe to the rank grass, though otherwise both are well-kept places of burial. In Carriden, several of the memorial stones have elaborate Latin inscriptions, and generally the "lettering" is much superior to what is commonly seen in village burial-grounds.

In INVERKEITHING there are two places of worship, the Established Church, and the United Presbyterian Church, each having a popular and much respected minister. The old burial-ground almost encircles the parish church, and is about as repulsive a grave-yard as one could desire to witness. The visitor who would wander through it must tread upon the graves, as there is no walk or footpath for him. In various corners are fragments of coffins and coffin mountings huddled together, and some of these have such a freshness about them that it is difficult to believe that a demand for space is not the cause why they had been prematurely thrown to the surface by the sexton. This unsightly place of sepulture is environed by dwelling-houses, many of whose windows being on a level with the burial-ground, the inmates, if they wish it, have the easiest possible access to their place of interment. It is satisfactory to have to add that the reproach justly due to the old burgh from not having a decent place of burial has been somewhat tardily removed. A new cemetery in a suitable locality, at a convenient distance from the congregation of the living, has been formed, trees planted, and the ground tastefully decorated. In the old place of interment (which by the way ought surely to be closed against further use) may be seen a monument bearing the following inscription :

Erected in Memory of JAMES SCOTT, R.N.,

Nearly thirty years Superintendent of the Queensferry Passage.

Died 26th March 1850—aged 83 years.

Battles had seen, and sailed in various climes.

Thousands of beings saw in latter times

Ferried in safety, back and fore to Fife,

With Christian hope he crossed the sea of Life.

There is also a marble slab "in memory of John Smart, surgeon, R.N., who sailed, 1845, in *H.M.S. Terror*, Arctic expedition, under Sir J. Franklin,"—and within the church itself is a tablet "to the memory of Lieut.-Col. James Cuninghame, of the late Scotch Brigade, who died at Brompton, London, Feby. 19th, 1793, aged 86 years."

The burial-place of NORTH QUEENSFERRY is a plat of ground right in the centre of the town, is a most uninviting-looking spot, and indicates the area of ground on which formerly stood a Roman Catholic chapel. The shapeless wall that surrounds it has a stone stuck in it having these words rudely carved : "This is done by the sailors in North Ferrie, 1752." There are a few old tombstones here, and one of them, dated 1735, has the following inscription :—

Heier we lay at anker, in hopes at the last day,
Our Admiral CHRIST to meet.

ROSYTHE burial-ground, situated within view of the tower of Rosythe, and to the eastward of Limekilns and Charleston, is the place of interment for the inhabitants of both these villages. It is bordered on the north side by a few elm trees, and occupies an exposed situation on the margin of the river, near to Rosythe Basin, a favourite resort of bathers in the summer season. Some communities have difficulty in obtaining suitable ground in which to bury their dead, not so the inhabitants of Limekilns and Charleston.

1812.

Monument erected by the inhabitants of Limekilns and Charleston, in testimony of their
gratitude

To the Right Hon. THOMAS BRUCE,
Earl of Elgin and Kincardine,

For his Lordship's generous gift of this piece of ground as a
burial place for them and their posterity.

On the obverse side is the following inscription :—

The inhabitants of Limekilns and Charleston
are again called upon to record
their gratitude

To the Right Hon. THOMAS BRUCE,
Earl of Elgin and Kincardine,

For his Lordship's second generous gift of a piece of ground,
as a burial place for them and their posterity.

The ground on the South was granted in 1812—on the North
in 1827.

In Memory of JOHN MENZIES,

Gardener to the Earl of Elgin for upwards of sixty years,
who died September 1815, aged 84.

Also of ROBERT MENZIES, son of the above,

Factor to the Earl of Elgin for 36 years,
who died Decr. 1853, aged 72.

Erected by William Menzies, factor, Tulliallan, and
John Menzies, civil engineer, Dunfermline.

1849.

To the Memory of JOHN WILSON,

who for 36 years served Thomas, Earl of Elgin and Kincardine,
with a rare devotion and respectful affection, highly
valued by his kind and noble master,
and by every member of the Family at Broomhall.

This stone is erected by James, Earl of Elgin and Kincardine,
to record the integrity, the unflinching zeal and interest
in the welfare of all his family, which were
shown by one whom they humbly hope to meet again
in a Blessed Resurrection.

In GRANGEMOUTH there are two places of worship, one connected with the Free and the other with the United Presbyterian Church. There is no burial-ground in the town—Larbert or Falkirk being thus the nearest place for interments.

About a minute's walk from the railway station is situated the old church-yard of FALKIRK, in the centre of which stands the Parish Church, erected in 1810. This is the third ecclesiastical edifice which has been erected on this site—the previous one having been founded by Malcolm III. in the year 1057, while the first one must have been built at a date further back in the ages of antiquity. The church-yard is partly surrounded by houses, from the lower windows of which an easy entrance could be made into the grounds. Partly owing to this perhaps, this place of sepulture presents a very disordered and irregular appearance, as with a view to economise space, the graves have been dug, and the tombstones placed, without any regard to order. Few of the burial spaces are marked off by any proper division, and there is only the one pathway through the centre of the ground. Notwithstanding these defects, the tourist or the antiquary will find much that is interesting to repay his visit. From its lofty position, an excellent view is obtained of the waters of the Forth, with the coast along its banks for many miles. Sir Walter Scott, on the occasion of his visit, characterised it as one of the best views that could be obtained in Scotland, embracing, as it does, within the circuit of vision, so many fields rich in historical associations and interesting memorials. At the demolition, in 1810, of the former church, a small headstone, about a foot in length, was found amongst the rubbish, bearing date 415, and having a Latin inscription. Much difficulty was experienced in deciphering the inscription, but the task was ultimately accomplished by the Rev. Dr Wilson, at that time minister of the parish. A cast of the stone was taken and sent to the British Museum, London, and a cast is also in the possession of John Kerr, the sexton of the church-yard. The translation is as follows:—

Here was interred the thane ROBERT GRAHAM;
he overthrew the wall of Severus in the year of our Saviour 415.
Fergus the Second, King of Scotland.

In the church-yard repose the remains of Sir John de Græme, the friend of Sir William Wallace, and who was killed at the battle of Falkirk, in 1298. The tombstone was renewed in 1773 by William Graham of Airth, and

again in 1860, by public subscription, and is now enclosed within a neat, ornamental railing. In addition to the crest and motto of the brave knight, the stone bears the following :

Ane better knight not to
the world was lent
Nor was gvyde Grame of
trvth and hardment

Heir Lyes
Mente manvqve
Potens et
Vallae fidvs
Achates
Conditor hic
Cramvs bello
Interfectvs
Ab Anglis
XXII JVLII
Anno 1298

SIR JOHN THE GRAME
baith wiolt and wise
Ane of the chief reakewit
Scotland thrise

On a plain and unpretending slab lying by the side of the pathway is the following inscription :—

Here lies a Scottish Hero,
SIR JOHN STEWART,
who was killed at the Battle of Falkirk,
22 July 1298.

In another part of the churchyard is the following tribute to the memory of other two of Scotland's heroes :—

Here lyes interred
The body of SIR ROBERT MUNRO of Foulis, Knt. & Bart.
The life he had spent in the Parliament and the Camp
with Honour,
he lost in the cause of Liberty and Religion, near Falkirk,
on the XVII of Janr MDCCXLVI, aged, LXII years.
As long as history narrates the Battle of Fontenoy
his courage and conduct on that day
in the command of the Highland Regiment
will be remembered.
Sincere and active in the service of his friends
humane and forgiving to his enemies
generous and benevolent to all
his death was universally regretted,
even by those who slew him.
With Sir Robert Munro was killed his brother,
Doctor DUNCAN MUNRO of Obsdale,
aged LIX,
who unarmed would not forsake his wounded brother.

Another tomb-stone bears the following inscription,—Here lies the body of Francis Simpson, Esq. of Plean, born in the year 1760, died in 1831, aged 71. He founded the asylum for indigent old men at Cvshn Quarter of Plean, in the parish of Saint Ninians ; he endowed it with a great part of his fortune, and named it William Simpson's asylum, in memory of his son.

There are other three burial-grounds in Falkirk, all of a more modern date.

Adjoining the north transept of the Parish Church of CULROSS stands "The Aisle," a building of much interest. It was erected, in 1642, by George Bruce of Carnock, in honour of his father, Sir George. On the east wall is a finely sculptured monument. Within a recess are recumbent figures of Sir George and his lady; and ranged along the wall, figures of his three sons and five daughters, all in alabaster. The late Sir R. and Lady Preston of Valleyfield are interred here. This aisle also encloses the spot where the heart of the second Lord Kinloss, who was killed in a duel, fought in Holland, with Sir Edward Sackville, 1613, was brought in a silver case in 1808. Over the spot where the heart is interred is a tablet with this inscription:

Fuimus.

Near this spot is deposited

The Heart of

EDWARD LORD BRUCE of Kinloss,

Who was slain in a bloody duel, fought in the year 1613, with

Sir Edward Sackville, afterwards Earl of Dorset,

near Bergen op Zoom in Holland,

to which country the Combatants had repaired,

the one from England, the other from Paris,

for the determined purpose of deciding their quarrel with the sword.

The Body of LORD BRUCE was interred in the

Great Church of Bergen op Zoom, where

among the ruins caused by the siege in 1747, are still to be

seen the remains of a

Monument which was erected to his memory.

A tradition, however, existing that his heart had been sent over to his native land, and was buried near this place, a search was made by Sir Robert Preston of Valleyfield, Bart., in the year 1808, when it was found embalmed in a silver case of foreign workmanship secured between two flat and excavated stones clasped with iron; and was again replaced and securely deposited, in the spot where it was discovered.

The particulars of the Challenge and fatal duel, in which Lord Bruce was killed on the spot, disdaining to accept his life from his antagonist (who was also dangerously wounded), see Lord Clarendon's history of the Rebellion, Book I., and the Letters and narratives published in No. 129 and 133 (or 153) of the Guardian. Robert Chambers, many years ago, wrote the well known Tale of "The Silver Heart," founded on the facts of the above fatal duel. He concludes his romantic narrative in these words:—"Such is the melancholy story of Edward Lord Bruce, a young nobleman, who, but for a false point of honour, arising from the incorrect judging of the world, might have lived to make many fellow creatures happy, and adorn the annals of his country. The sacred griefs of those to whom he was most peculiarly endeared, it would be vain to paint. A mistress, who wore

mourning, and lived single for his sake all the rest of her life—a mother, who survived him only to mourn his irreparable loss—upon such holy sorrow it is not for me to intrude. It may be only mentioned that the latter individual, recollecting the last parting words of her son, caused his heart to be embalmed, and brought to her in a silver case (the body being buried in the cathedral of Bergen-op-Zoom), and carried it with her to Culross, where she spent the remainder of her life in gloomy solitude, with that object always before her upon her table. After her death it was deposited in the family vault already described where it has ever since remained, the best monument of its own fatal history.”

The ruins of the West Church of Culross, St Mary's, which is supposed to have been the Parish Church, previous to the Reformation, are considerably to the west of the town. It is surrounded with a grave-yard, with a tolerable enclosure, and is still used for burials. The two following epitaphs are to be found there, the first being dated 1633 :

Remember man as thou gois by
As you are now even so was I
As I am now so shall you be
Remember man that thou must die.

Remember man as thou art now in thy flowris
Fraill is thy tyme thy dayeis or yit thy houris
Pray thou thairfoir to Him that creat thee
To learn of Christ to live and so to die.

The old Parish Church of Airth, now a ruin, adjoins the Castle ; it was repaired in 1591 ; it belonged to the Abbey of Holyrood 1128, and in the time of Episcopacy was under the Bishops of Edinburgh. In one or more of the aisles are the remains of several monuments to the Bruces of an early date, one of the monuments being marble. The new church, situated between Airth and Dunmore, was opened in 1820. On a stone in the old church-yard which indicates the burial place of Captain John Dicks, are these lines :—

Though winds and seas full forty years
Have tossed me to and fro,
In spite of these, by God's decrees,
I'm anchored here below.

On tablet to the memory of Sir Alex. Bruce are these words:

To-day the Voyce is
This is
The way
Walk ye
In it.

Ere long the Voyce will be
Arise
Ye Dead
And come
To judgment.

ST ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL CHAPEL, DUNMORE, built and endowed at the sole cost of the Right Hon. the Countess of Dunmore, and of which the Rev. Cave Brown is the present incumbent, was consecrated by the Right Rev. Bishop Terrott, on the 8th of October, 1850. Planted on a gently rising eminence which commands an extensive view of the Forth, it is yet so sheltered, without being environed, by clusters of trees, as to be greatly screened from distant observation. The chapel is in the pointed or early English style of architecture. On the internal arrangements, the decorative appliances of the artist and architect have been brought to bear with much skill and taste. The altar, altar screen, communion table, and reading desk, are of solid oak, while the pulpit is entirely hewn from one block of stone. Behind the altar is a large Gothic window, of beautifully stained glass, filled in with rich tracery. On either side of the window are the commandments of the decalogue, painted in the old English style; and around an arch, separating the chancel from the church, is a scroll, in similar characters, lettered in bronze, with the words: "Let us come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." The organ and choir occupy a place at the west end of the building, and two stained glass windows adorn other parts of the chapel. Elphinstone Tower, near to the chapel, was many years ago consecrated as the Family Mausoleum, by the Right Rev. the Bishop of Moray. Here are the inscriptions on one of the marble monuments. On the south side:

Ann: ætat 74.

Sacred to the Memory of
GEORGE, FIFTH EARL OF DUNMORE,
Who died Nov. 11, 1836,

universally beloved, esteemed, and regretted.

To a vigorous understanding and a highly cultivated taste,

he added a goodness and a singleness of heart,

Which endeared him to every one, and gave a peculiar
character to all those virtues he eminently possessed.

Blessed are the dead that die in the Lord.

This last tribute of departed worth is placed here by
his sorrowing widow,

His inseparable and devoted companion for above 33 years,
and his grateful and affectionate children.

On the north side of the monument are these lines:

Oft to this spot will mem'ry fondly turn,

And love's pure flame still unextinguished burn

Within her breast who here doth mourn his loss,

But nails her sorrows to a Saviour's Cross.

Oh! precious hope! by faith to mortals given,

That twining hearts which have on earth been riven

May through that same dear Saviour's dying love

Again unite in realms of bliss above.

S. D. 1836.

On the west side of the monument :

Sacred to the Memory of SUSAN, his Wife.
 She possessed all his virtues and his best affections,
 as well as the tenderest love of her children.
 She never made an enemy nor lost a friend
 during the whole course of her truly Christian life.
 And as its sunshine was consecrated to the service of her God,
 so was its sunset gladdened by His love.
 She expired at Richmond Park, Sunday 24th May, 1846,
 in the 72nd year of her age.
"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints."

On the east side of the monument :—

"Lovely and pleasant in their lives
 In their death they were not divided."

Here also will be seen the Tomb of Alexander Edward, 6th Earl of Dunmore, surrounded by an iron railing, and bordered by cypress plants, roses, &c. Above a superincumbent cross of black marble are these scripture quotations :

"Watch therefore : for ye know not what hour your Lord doth come."

"Blessed is that servant, whom his Lord when He cometh
 shall find so doing."

While at the foot of the tomb is inscribed—

Alexander Edward Murray, 6th Earl of Dunmore,
 Born, June 1st 1804, Died July 15th 1845.

He married, Sept. 27th 1836, Catherine Herbert, fourth daughter of George Augustus, 11th Earl of Pembroke.

On north side of the chapel is a granite monument, having the Earl's coronet, with Family arms and motto, "Furth fortune and fill the fetters,"—also the following inscription :

Anno ætat 41.

Sacred to the memory of Alexander Edward, 6th Earl of Dunmore.
 A dutiful and affectionate son; a warm-hearted and affectionate brother,
 A devoted and affectionate husband and parent.

He expired on the 15th July 1845,
 fondly attached to his country and the home of his fathers;
 Universally and deeply regretted by all who shared his friendship and affection.

"Them which sleep in Jesus will God bring with Him."

"Wherefore comfort one another with these words."

The following is taken from a tomb-stone in CROMBIE Church-yard, lying between Torryburn and Crombiepoint :

JOHN FISHER, 6th December, 1762.

He to the country was a guide
 And to the Church a fence
 Nor could within the camp abide
 When truth was banished thence.
 His life and death did both express
 What strength of grace was given—
 His life, a lamp of holiness:
 His death, a dawn of heaven.

The present Parish Church of CLACKMANNAN, beneath which lie the bones of many chiefs of the illustrious house of Bruce, though now no marble or brass chronicles their glorious deeds, is a large modern structure erected about fifty years ago. There is here, however, little of interest to the tourist or antiquary. In the church is a monument to the memory of the Hon. Robert Bruce of Kennet, one of the Senators of the College of Justice; also to his son, Alex. Bruce, Esq. of Kennet. In the old church-yard is a slab with the arms of Bruce, and dated 1709, The oldest slab in the church-yard bears date 1665.

The burial-ground of ALLOA having become overcrowded from the number of interments, it was enlarged in 1857 by the accession of an adjoining shrubbery or flower-ground which was generously given up by the Earl of Mar. Within the old ground stands the Mausoleum of the family of Mar, which partly covers the spot on which stood the old Parish Church, prior to the building of the new edifice in 1819. In the Mausoleum are the remains of various members of the Mar family.

Near Harvieston Castle, Dollar, the waters of the Devon flowing closely past it, is situated the "Tomb" or place of interment of the family of the late Mr Crawford Tait, father of the present Bishop of London. It is not often that in wandering amongst tombs one meets with an inscription so remarkable for beauty of expression as the following:—

CRAWFURD TAIT, Esq. OF HARVIESTOUN,

Died May 1832, aged 67.

His taste adorned this lovely valley, in the bosom of which he lies.

His genius, in advance of the age in which he lived,

originated in a great measure the improvement
of the district, and pointed the way to much throughout the country
destined to be accomplished by a future generation.

His children, thankful for Abraham's gift, a Tomb,

and the promise of a Redeemer,

here record his name, in humble hope that, though the place which

knew him shall know him no more, he has,

through Christ, found a home "not made with hands eternal
in the heavens."

In the same place of burial is a cenotaph to the memory of Colonel Thomas F. Tait, C.B., and A.D.C. to the Queen, who commanded the third Bengal Irregular Cavalry in the campaigns of Afghanistan, the Sutlej, and the Punjaub, who died on 16th March 1859, in the house of his youngest Brother, the Bishop of London.

SIR RALPH ABERCROMBY, it is not out of place here to notice, was born at Menstry, near Alloa, in October, 1734. He was educated successively at Alloa, Rugby, and Edinburgh. He was the eldest son of the late George Abercromby, Esq., of Tullibody, and Mary Dundas, daughter of the late Ralph Dundas, Esq. of Manor. Sir Ralph was "proclaimed" in Alloa Church, on the 14th November, and was married to Mary Ann Menzies, of Fern Tower, parish of Crieff, 17th November, 1768. He was mortally wounded in a battle fought with the French, near Alexandria, in Egypt, on 21st March, 1801, and died the 28th of same month, on board of a ship in the Bay of Aboukir. His body was conveyed to Malta, and interred beneath the ramparts of the castle of St Elmo. In the old Church at Tullibody, within view of the birth-place of the illustrious deceased, a commemorative tablet was erected by the Family, and under the west window of the South Transept of St Paul's Cathedral may be seen a monument to Sir Ralph. A Highlander is represented in the act of supporting the General, who appears exhausted by the loss of blood, and falling from his horse. The horse is trampling on trophies, and a prostrate figure under its feet. The pedestal, which is a half oval, raised upon a plinth, with large figures of sphinxes at the side, has this inscription :—

Erected at the public expense, to the Memory of

LIEUTENANT-GENERAL SIR RALPH ABERCROMBY, K.B.C.,
 Commander-in-Chief of an expedition directed against the French in Egypt, who, having surmounted with consummate ability and valour the obstacles opposed to his landing, by local difficulties and a powerful and well prepared enemy, and having successfully established and maintained the successive positions necessary for conducting his future operations,
 Resisted with equal advantage, a desperate attack of chosen and well-disciplined troops, on the 21st March 1801,
 when he received, early in the engagement, a mortal wound; but remained in the field guiding by his directions, and animating by his presence, the brave troops under his command,
 until they had achieved the brilliant and important victory obtained on that memorable day.

The former actions of a long life spent in the service of his country, and thus gloriously terminated, were distinguished by the same military skill and by equal zeal for the public service, particularly during the campaign in the Netherlands in 1793 and 94; in the West Indies in 1796 and 97, and in Holland in 1799; in the last of which, the distinguished gallantry and ability with which he effected his landing on the Dutch coast, established his position in the face of a powerful enemy, and secured the command of a principal fort and arsenal of the Dutch Republic, while acknowledged and honoured by the thanks of both Houses of Parliament.

Sir Ralph Abercromby expired on board the *Foudroyant*, on the 28th of March, 1801, in his 66th year.

The widow of Sir Ralph was created Baroness Abercromby, and a pension of £2000 a-year was conferred on her. This pension was also continued to the first and second Lord Abercromby, the grandfather and father of the present peer. The Abercrombies have for years represented the County of Clackmannan in Parliament, and James Abercromby, the grand-uncle of the present Lord, was elected (by a majority of ten over Manners Sutton), the first speaker of the Reformed House of Commons. Sir Ralph himself, in 1733, was chosen to represent the County of Clackmannan in Parliament. The contest was severe, and was conducted by Colonel Erskine, the brother of the restored Earl of Mar, with unusual violence.

STIRLING Cemetery is situated at the head of the town, and at the entrance to it stands the High Church, a noble pile of Gothic architecture. This ecclesiastical edifice originally formed one church, but is now divided into two commodious places of worship, the one receiving the appellation of the East, the other the West Church. The cemetery, from the beauty of its situation, and from the lovely view which it commands of the surrounding landscape, is a place of favourite resort. There is in the churchyard a considerable number of old tomb-stones, some dated so early as the year 1600. Time, however, is telling its own story on these memorials of the departed, the inscriptions on most of them being well nigh obliterated, although rude ornamental carving is still visible. In the more modern part of the burying-ground (opened in the autumn of 1857), are several chaste yet elegant monuments. In this part of the cemetery are full-length statues of the Scottish Martyrs, James Renwick, Alexander Henderson, James Guthrie, and James Melville. Statues are also erected here to John Knox, the Reformer, and to Ebenezer Erskine, the founder of the Secession, now the United Presbyterian Church. A handsome drinking-fountain, the generous gift of James Drummond, Esq., has been placed in the cemetery for the convenience of thirsty visitors.

HOPETOUN HOUSE.

NEARLY a century, commencing with the year 1696, was occupied in thoroughly completing the original plan of this princely Grecian pile, a fact which of itself must convey some idea of the extent and magnificence of this noble mansion of the Hopetoun family. Sir William Bruce of Kinross was the celebrated architect originally employed by Charles, the first Earl of Hopetoun, and the building was carried on and perfected by others. By all strangers who visit this splendid demesne, Hopetoun House, with its beautiful and magnificent woods, plantations, pleasure-grounds, and parks surrounding it, is warmly admired. Whether we look to the beauty of the site, which commands a view of the towns, villages, shipping, and waters of the Forth; the skill and ingenuity brought to bear on the effective decoration of the grounds, terraces, and gardens; the extent and variety of the ornamental woods, and also of the plantations; or the horticultural taste exemplified in the vineries and hot-houses, we must admit that the whole scene is one of beauty unparalleled, to keep within moderate limits, along the Banks of the Forth. Access to the policies of Hopetoun is not a difficult matter, and the visitor will find blooming lawns, wooded walks, pleasant terraces, and carriage roads, while the sight of the Deer Park with the bounding deer will heighten the interest of his perambulation.

The author of "Summer Life on Land and Water," justly remarks—"The rise of the Hopetoun family, springing from the great Dutch commercial house of Hope, and the distinctions attained by its great lawyer, Sir Thomas Hope, at the bar; and its great soldier, the late John, Earl of Hopetoun, one of the heroes in the field of Waterloo, is, in all its phases, one of the proudest characteristics of British civilization."

John Alexander Hope, Earl of Hopetoun, Viscount Aithrie, and Baron Hope, in the Peerage of Scotland; Baron Hopetoun of Hopetoun and Niddry, of the county of Linlithgow, in the peerage of the United Kingdom, was born 22d March, 1831, succeeded to the estates 8th April, 1843. In 1860, he married Etheldred-Anne, eldest daughter of C. T. Birch Reynardson, Esq. of Holywell Hall, Lincolnshire, and has issue, John-Adrian-Louis, Viscount Aithrie, born 1860.

DUNFERMLINE,

EVERY advantageously seen as the steamer ascends the river, is a city of great antiquity, basked long in the sunshine of royal and ecclesiastical splendour, and was a city to whose sacred courts pilgrimages were wont to be made previous to the Reformation. The reign of Malcolm Canmore commenced about 1057, while several years later than this has been assigned as the date of his tower or palace. Mr Billings, alluding to the remains of regal magnificence to be seen here, and while doubting the alleged date of King Malcolm's tower, says—"South-east of this tower, and on the verge of the woody glen, stand the stately remains of the Palace, strongly buttressed, with several windows, cross-mullioned, and one projecting oriel fashion. Though nearly fragmentary, the remains of this edifice are full of interest, to the antiquarian investigator who delights to trace the foundations of departed walls, or to rummage in vaults and crypts half filled with rubbish." Within this simple edifice, such as it was in 1070, were celebrated the nuptials of King Malcolm III., and Margaret, a Saxon Princess,—the former acknowledged to be a wise and valiant Prince, the latter an ornament to the age in which she lived. Here, too, did they reside in all conjugal affection, and probably of no Scottish Sovereigns are the lives and characters better known than are those of this royal pair. The union, though, as elsewhere explained, preceded by a storm, was a happy one to the parties themselves, and one which turned out to the country's advantage. King Malcolm III., who founded the richly-endowed monastery of Dunfermline towards the end of the eleventh century, and after having reigned for thirty-six years, was slain at the siege of the castle of Alnwick, in Northumberland, on the 13th Nov. 1093. His eldest son, Prince Edward, died three days afterwards, in consequence of a mortal wound received in the course of the flight of the Scottish army from Alnwick, and Queen Margaret, confined at the time by sickness in the castle of Edinburgh, from grief at the sad intelligence of these events, died 17th Nov. 1093. The remains of all of them were conveyed to Dunfermline for interment. Near to the tower of King Malcolm Canmore stood the palace which was once the residence of the Sovereigns of Scotland, and the dis-

covery in 1812, near the great wall of the ruin, of a piece of sculpture, illustrative of the first chapter in St Luke's gospel, usually termed the *Annunciation*, and bearing date 1100, would seem to indicate the period when the palace was built. Adjacent to the palace once stood a magnificent building, the Queen's House, so named on the occasion of the marriage, in 1589, of James VI. with Queen Anne of Denmark. The Abbey Old Church is all that now remains of the ancient ecclesiastical edifice of this place, spared by the ravages committed first by the English in the fourteenth century, and afterwards by the reformers in their zeal against Popery. Whether it was built at the time of the monastery being founded by Malcolm Canmore has been doubted. From the reign of Malcolm III., Dunfermline became the common cemetery for the kings of Scotland, and within the hallowed walls of the Abbey have been interred eight kings, five queens, and two princesses of Scotland. On the 17th of February 1818, the sepulchre of King Robert Bruce was accidentally discovered, and the remains of the monarch satisfactorily recognised. More recently, the graves of others of the illustrious dead have been discovered.

Dunfermline has been the scene of many important historical events, and many royal personages have occasionally resided in the city. On 22d July, 1291, in August 1296, and in December 1303, Edward I. visited Dunfermline; here, also, on 4th March, 1323, King Robert Bruce had a son born to him, who afterwards ascended the throne under the title of David II.; on 7th August, 1332, Edward Balliol, when contending for the crown of Scotland, visited Dunfermline; in 1335, a Parliament was held here, when Sir Andrew Murray was elected to the Regency of the kingdom; on March 3, 1561, Queen Mary came from Edinburgh to Dunfermline; on 26th January, 1581, the second Confession of Faith was subscribed by James VI., and all his household, at Dunfermline; in 1588, Dunfermline was constituted a royal burgh; here, on 19th August, 1596, James VI. had a daughter born to him, the Princess Elizabeth, afterwards Queen of Bohemia; on 19th November, 1600, King Charles I. was born here; on June 24, 1624, "Thair was ane great fyre in Dunferling, that brunt almaist the hail toun in four houris space. Thaireafter, upon thair supplication, voluntar contribution was grantit thame throchout the kingdome;" in November, 1643, the Solemn League and Covenant, with a view to the prevention of the spread and ascendancy of Popery and Prelacy, was sworn and subscribed at Dunfermline; in July, 1651, a battle, (sometimes called the "Battle of Inverkeithing")

and "Battle of Pitreavie,") was fought between the army of Cromwell and that of Charles II., when the former crossed the Frith at Queensferry, on their march northward to Perth; on 4th November, 1706, the burgh of Dunfermline, instructed their Parliamentary representative to vote against the union betwixt Scotland and England, but he voted for the union, and the hon. gentleman (Sir Peter Halkett) did not appear in Dunfermline for a year afterwards; in the *Caledonian Mercury* of 18th April, 1715, it is stated that "at Dunfermline, the Excise Bill was burned on Thursday last by the common hangman."

Many eminent and noble families, and distinguished ministers of the gospel, have been connected with Dunfermline, but an enumeration of these is here impracticable. Of ecclesiastical edifices, the Abbey Church, begun in March, 1818, and completed in September, 1821, is the largest and by far the most to be admired. In his very able work, the "History of Dunfermline," the Rev. Peter Chalmers of the Abbey Church, writing of the ecclesiastical state of the parish, says—"It is well known that Dunfermline has always been a principal seat of Dissent, ever since the Secession from the Establishment of the Rev. Ralph Erskine, who was one of the parochial ministers here, and his deposition by the General Assembly in 1740, when he became one of the chief supporters of the Associate Synod, and had a large congregation in this place; as also, since the deposition of the Rev. Thomas Gillespie, minister of Carnock, in 1752, which gave rise to the formation of the first Relief congregation in Scotland, in this town." The Rev. Ralph Erskine received a competing call to the parish of Tulliallan, but he preferred Dunfermline, and after leaving the Establishment, he became pastor of the Associate congregation assembling in Queen Anne Street, Dunfermline, and officiated there till 6th Nov. 1752, when he died. In front of the modern chapel, built on the site of the old one where he preached, a full length statue was some years ago erected to his memory.

The staple trade of Dunfermline is the manufacture of table linen, and visitors to the town would do well to obtain an inspection of the princely establishment at St Leonards, the property of Mr Erskine Beveridge,—a gentleman of remarkable energy, enterprise, and liberality, and who is also the proprietor of that ably-conducted newspaper, the *Dunfermline Press*. Dunfermline also can boast of a Music Hall, equal in many respects to any similar edifice in Scotland—a building admirably and ingeniously planned by its proprietor, Mr William Clark, junr.

The late Robert Gilfillan, the well known Scottish poet, while residing in Leith, contributed several pieces to the *Alloa Advertiser*, but the following original song (to the tune of "Good night, and joy be wi' ye a',") in which the writer expresses his fondly cherished remembrance of the days and scenes of his boyhood, seems peculiarly suited for the present publication :—

DUNFERMLINE TOWN,—wi' woody braes
 And wee burns wimpling to the sea—
 Frae fair Edina's heights I gaze,
 My native place, ance mair on thee !
 And mind the days when hearts were young
 And bosoms bounding wild and free ;
 When blithest sangs were blithely sung,
 An' a' was mirth, an' a' was glee !

The braes whaur waved the yellow broom,
 An' wild flowers grew in beauty fair,
 I clamb wi' those, then in their bloom,
 That now, alas ! I see nae mair !
 The bank, the bower, the streamlet clear,
 We wander'd by the lee-lang day,
 Nor thought the time would bring the tear
 For friends departed, years away !

Thy Abbey wa's, time-honoured now,
 Clad wi' the climbing ivy green,
 In mould'ring ruin, mind me how
 Their sacred haunts, were ours, I ween !
 Or did we change the sportive scene,
 We westward took our wandering way
 To where the Forth comes in between
 The Southern shore and ALLOA !

In foreign lands I've journey'd wide,
 And noble cities looked upon !
 Where towers lift up their heads in pride,
 The highest that the sun shines on !
 But, as the bright sun to the flower,
 As moerland bloom is to the bee,
 Or, to the green-rob'd earth, the shower,
 Dunfermline town, thou'rt dear to me !

In the cottage of Mr Joseph Paton, at Woocer's Alley, the visitor to Dunfermline will be kindly allowed to inspect a great diversity of interesting and valuable antiquities, chiefly gathered from ancient royal Scottish palaces.

CULROSS AND ITS ANTIQUITIES.

CULROSS, were it not so thoroughly land-locked, might well become a rival to localities, less beautiful for scenery and romantic for situation, which have enjoyed much celebrity as watering-places. No stage coach runs along its ancient streets, no steamer there pauses in its progress to disembark passengers, and the railway train sweeps past it at a distance of about three miles. Yet, seen from the deck of the steamer, Culross appears pleasantly embosomed amongst trees and orchards, rising with a gentle inclination to a considerable eminence fronting the south-west, while the fine old parish church and noble Abbey come commandingly into view. The tourist will find a day in the locality abundantly repaid, and the ancient royal burgh may be reached by debarking from the steamer at Kincardine on the west, Crombiepoint on the east, or leaving the railway train at Eastgrange station, from all which places Culross is about three miles distant,—or, by hiring a small boat at Borrowstounness, on the opposite shore, he may enjoy a pleasant three miles' sail across the beautiful broad bay, obtaining the while

“A dazzling view!

Corn, meadow, mansion, water, tree,
In varying hue.”

The history of Culross stretches back to the sixth century of the Christian era. The first notice we have of it is in connexion with the venerable names of St Serf and St Mungo. In the 16th and 17th centuries Culross had considerable wealth and trade. For much of its prosperity it was indebted to Sir G. Bruce of Carnock, burgess and merchant of Culross, a man of eminent talent and far a-head of his times. He wrought coal and manufactured salt here to a great extent and carried on a large foreign trade. The salt pans are said to have amounted to fifty in number, and were in a flourishing state in the reign of James VI. As one proof of the size and importance of Culross about this period, it may be stated that the Solemn League and Covenant of 1643, secured 707 signatures, which, it may be safely assumed, were those of adult males, and this would give a population for the parish of nearly 3000. The book containing these signatures is extant, in excellent preservation. Perhaps some portion of its ancient prosperity may have been due to its monopoly of girdle-making, by royal charters of early date, and confirmed by James VI. in 1599, by a letter, bearing his own signature

and still carefully preserved.* This exclusive privilege of manufacturing girdles was forbidden in 1727, by the Court of Session, since which period girdle-making as a trade has here become extinct.

There are some interesting antiquarian remains here. It has the honour of having been the scene of St Serf's labours, and of having been the birth-place of Kentigern or St Mungo, the founder and patron saint of Glasgow, who was educated by St Serf. Detailed notices of the lives and labours of these good men will be found in another part of this work. At the east end of the town, near the shore, are the remains of St Mungo's kirk, built and endowed in 1503, by Blackadder, Archbishop of Glasgow, on the spot where the saint was born. The ruins, after lying long in neglect, were, last year, cleared of the rubbish under which they had been ignominiously buried. The kirk appears to have been small and neat, but unadorned. The high-place, or floor on which the high altar stood, is in its original condition. The east end is a three-sided copse. There was a grave-yard attached to it, which has not been used for the last hundred years. A monastery for Cistercian monks, dedicated to St Serf and the Virgin Mary, was founded here in 1217, by Malcolm, Thane of Fife, who was buried within the church. Considerable remains are yet to be seen. There is a fine vaulted passage, richly ornamented, leading into what is considered to have been the cloister court; and another and larger apartment with a groined ceiling, in good preservation. The church consisted of a central tower, preserved entire,—the choir, now the

* The following is a copy of James the Sixth's Charter, or letter of Confirmation to the Girdlemakers of Culross. The letter itself is in the possession of the Rev. W. C. Stephen, a gentleman of much antiquarian knowledge, conversant with every feature of the history of Culross, and who has kindly assisted the writer in his preparation of the notices of the ancient burgh which occur in this work:—

“*Rex.*”

“My lordis and barronis

“Provests and Bailleis of oure bruts. ffor somekill as we are credible informitt be ye girdelmaker Inhabitantis within ye brut. of Culros that thare is sundrie men vilipendis and usurpis thair priviledgis, and without all kynd of ordoure intromits yame selfs with the said craft and workis in yt craft without authorizing of the remanent brethrene and bodie of ye craft and yair admission as yar autorite to hand according to thair auld priviledge Quhairfoir it is oure will and we command zou that in all tymes heirefter ze concur fortiffe and assist the freemen of the Girdelmaker craft wt. in oure said burt. in all thingis accordring to yair usuall and antient priviledge Sud yat na persone nor persones tak vpoune hand to work any of the said girdels Except yai be lawfully admittit and autorizit be ye haill bodie of that craft to that effect As ze and ilk ane of zou will answer to us upone zor obedience at zor uttermost chairge and perill and under all hiest pane and chairge yat efter may fallow Be yir presentis. Geven under or signet and subscryuit be or owne hand at hallruidhous the xxviii. day of November and of or Regane ye xxxii. zeir 1599

(Signed)

JAMES R.

Parish Church, much altered ; and the nave, removed, with the exception of a small portion of the south wall. The burying-ground of the Abbey Church is the one chiefly used.

It is recorded by tradition that when James the Sixth revisited Scotland, after his accession to the throne of England, he made an excursion into Fife, for the purpose of enjoying the diversion of hunting in the neighbourhood of Dunfermline. After recreating himself with the sport, he invited the company in attendance to dine along with him at a "collier's house," meaning the Abbey of Culross, then belonging to Sir George Bruce, one of the most ingenious and enterprising coal-masters in Scotland. Being conducted at his own desire to see the works below ground, of which he had heard a good deal, he was led by a passage to the mouth of a pit, opening within sea-mark, and only protected from inundation by a wall or moat. Having ascended to the brink of the opening, he was astonished and dismayed to find himself without previous intimation, surrounded by water ; on which he was seized with an immediate apprehension of some plot against his liberty or life, and called out, "*Treason ! treason !*" But Sir George assured him there was none, and that he had nothing to fear. Pointing to an elegant pinnacle that was made fast to the moat, he desired to know whether his Majesty would feel it most agreeable to be carried ashore in it, or return by the subterraneous route. The King preferred the shortest way back, and was consequently borne ashore in the vessel, all the time expressing his admiration of what he had seen. After this the royal guest was sumptuously entertained at the Abbey. Some of the glasses are still preserved in the family of his host, and the room in which he was feasted still receives the name of the *King's Room*. It is recorded that this curious pit, which extended a considerable way beneath the Firth of Forth, was totally destroyed in March 1625, on the night of James's death, by a violent storm, which washing away the raised part around the moat, deluged the workings with water so irreparably, that till this day they are choked. The stones of the rampart not carried away were afterwards sold for the purpose of repairing the old stone pier of Leith.

In the west of the town, within a wall, stands a cluster of buildings, locally dignified, in the 17th century, with the name of the Palace ; more recently, with that of the Colonel's Close. The first name it may have received from being the mansion in which Sir G. Bruce entertained James VI. in 1617, some being of opinion that the Abbey was not then built. The second was given as having been

the residence of Colonel John Erskine, relative of Sir G. Bruce, father of the eminent lawyer, and grandfather of Dr Erskine of Edinburgh. The earlier of these houses were built by Sir George Bruce of Carnock, in 1597, and 1611. This property was some time ago purchased by Mr Luke. There is a curious room in the uppermost story of the oldest house, which has a bow-shaped ceiling, divided into compartments, each having a painting, representing a virtue, or moral quality, with a Latin motto, and an English couplet, of which the following is a specimen :—

Patentia omnia vincit.

With patience suffer still and then we sall in fine
Oure foes subdue when they with shame sall pine.

A little to the east of the monastery, stands, on a noble site, commanding a beautiful view of the firth, Culross Abbey, an elegant mansion of the seventeenth century. The two first storeys were, according to the common belief, erected by Edward, Lord Kinloss, whose second son was created Earl of Elgin; the third, by Alexander, second Earl of Kincardine, grandson of Sir G. Bruce, younger brother of Lord Kinloss. The present Earl of Elgin and Kincardine, Governor-General of India, unites, in his own person, the honours and titles of the descendants of the brothers, Edward and George Bruce. Alexander, second Earl of Kincardine, who lived in the Abbey, was succeeded by his son, Alexander, who, dying without issue, was succeeded by his sister, Lady Mary Bruce. She married William Cochrane of Ochiltree; and her seventh son, Thomas, succeeded to the title of the Earl of Dundonald. Adjoining the north transept of the parish church stands "the Aisle," a building of much interest, and noticed under the section "Churches and Cemeteries."

An elegant building has recently been erected for the use of Geddes' school; and a plainer, but very suitable one, for the Parochial school. The Free Church is a small but handsome building. The population of the burgh, by census 1861, was 517; of the parish, 1421.

Culross unites with the burghs of Stirling, Dunfermline, Inverkeithing, and South Queensferry, in sending a representative to Parliament, but though it is judicially in Perthshire, the parish is politically united with the counties of Clackmannan and Kinross. Though the commercial prosperity of Culross is undeniably on the wane, the stranger will not have made an inspection of the ancient burgh without being gratified with his tour, and if afterwards he may desire to take his ease in his inn, he will find his comfort attended to in perfection at the "Dundonald Arms."

ST SERF, ST MUNGO, ST COLUMBA.

A LONG the pleasant BANKS OF THE FORTH must ever linger warm recollections of the piety and worth of these eminent coteremporary Scottish saints—these early students of the college of Iona—illustrious men whose pious labours tended to dispel the gloom of Druidism, that old, bloody, and inhuman idolatry, which formed the religion of the aboriginal Britons. The Druids were not only the national ministers, they performed the onerous duties of the legislator, the ruler, and the public instructor. They had frequently recourse to human sacrifice, and in the administration of justice, the trial by ordeal was a favourite method, which was superstitiously employed by the ministers of the idolatry to indicate the criminal.

“ Not far away, for ages past, hath stood,
An old unviolated sacred wood,
Whose gloomy boughs, thick interwoven, made
A dully, cheerless, everlasting shade.
There not the rustic gods, nor satyrs sport,
Nor fawns, nor sylvans, with the nymphs resort,
But barbarous priests some dreadful power adore,
And lustrate every tree with human gore.”

St Serf, St Mungo, and St Columba, laboured to break this yoke of Druidical superstition and heathen barbarism, and to diffuse the light and blessings of the Christian religion, in our native land. Their names occupy many a goodly page in the records of the early Fathers of the Church in our island. They were educated men, whose active lives were devoted to doing good, each one of them, though given to retirement and contemplation, differing widely indeed from the hermit described by the poet :—

“ Remote from man, with God, he passed his days :
Prayer all his business ; all his pleasure, praise.”

St Serf, or Servanus, was a native of Canaan, was of royal extraction, and was heir to a throne, but resolved to consecrate himself a missionary of the Cross. Wynton has it—

“ He was of life ane holy man
The king's son of Kanaan.
His father's lands of heritage
Fell til him by clear lineage,
And lawful lele, before all other.
That gave he to his younger brother.
All such cumber he forsook,
And unto holy life him took.”

Proceeding first to Alexandria, then to Constantinople, next to Rome, he subsequently passed through France and England, and at last arrived in the Forth at Inchkeith. St Serf left Inchkeith, and again in the words of Wynton,

“And ower the water, of purpose,
Of Forth, he passed to Culrosse.
There first, St Serf took his reset,
To live of that, that he might get.
There he begainth to rede a ground
Quhare that he thowcht a kirk to found.
And thar he broucht up Sanct Mongow
That syne was Bishop of Glasgow.”

Probably the beauty and amenity of the spot, or at the time a large population, may have led St Serf to settle in Culross. At all events, he took up his abode in a cottage on the site now occupied by the princely Abbey, and forthwith set himself to “redding ground” for the building of his kirk, which, it is supposed was built about the middle of the sixth century, on the spot on which the church of the monastery, 700 years afterwards, was reared. The labours of St Serf embraced a wide district, for it is known that he made visits to Tillicoultry and Lochleven, at which latter place he remained seven years, then returned to Culross, where he died and was buried, and his ashes repose within or near his own little church. The memory of St Serf has never been forgotten by the people of Culross. In the charter, erecting the town into a burgh of barony, in 1490, James IV. assigns as the ground of granting the charter, the singular veneration borne for the blessed confessor, St Serf, patron of the monastery of Culross. The figure of St Serf, in the attitude of prayer, is engraven on the larger of the seals of the Royal Burgh.

Whether the saints themselves believed in the possession of miraculous powers, or whether a belief in miracles was gratuitously ascribed to them by the monks who wrote their lives need not here be inquired into. Divers miracles are alleged to have been performed by St Serf, and in particular that he raised two brothers from the dead. This act is commemorated in a couplet which has the merit at least of Spartan brevity—

“In Tullycultry til a wyf,
Twa sons he raised frae ded to lyf.”

One of the greatest miracles ascribed to this saint was that performed on the occasion of a favourite ram belonging to him having been, in the words of our modern indictments, “feloniously and theftuously away taken.” A person suspected of having stolen it being brought before the saint,

denied the charge, when the ram, which the fellow had really stolen, slain, and devoured, was made to bleat out of his inner man, by ventriloquy proving the pannel guilty. The story is wedded to immortal verse—Wynton giving an amusing description of the detection of the thief in the following inimitable lines :—

“This holy man had a ram,
That he had fed up of a lam ;
And oysit him til folow ay,
Quherever he passit in his way,
A theyf this scheppe in Ackan stal,
And et him up in pieces small.
Quhen Sanct Serf his ram had myst,
Quha that it stal was few that mist ;
On presumption, nevertheless,
He that it stal arestyt was ;
And till Sanct Serf syne was he brocht,
That scheppe he said that he stal noucht ;
And therefore for to swear ane athe
He said that he walde nocht be laythe.
But soon he werthit red for scheyme,
The scheppe that betyt in his wayme.
Swa was he taynctyt schaymefully,
And at Sanct Serf askyt mercy.

St Mungo was the illegitimate son of Thenan, daughter of Loth, King of the Picts. His father is said to have been Ewen, or Eugenius, King of Cumbria. His mother, fleeing from the wrath of her father, set sail in a frail skiff from the Lothian coast, and driven by the wind and waves, landed at Culross, where her son was born. On the departure of Thenan, the infant was carried to St Serf, who brought him up, soon conceived a strong affection for him, and gave him an excellent education. The name he first received was “Kentigern,” but he is best known by that of “Mungo,” which is supposed to be a corruption of “Mongah,” signifying in the Celtic “dear friend.” The care taken of his education was not unrewarded. After the death of his patron, though some say during his lifetime, he left Culross and took up his abode on the spot where the splendid Cathedral of Glasgow now stands. There he built a church, but his zealous labours awoke the jealousy and hostility of Markin, the heathen King of Cumbria, from whose persecution he was compelled to flee from Glasgow. He betook himself to Wales, where he founded a monastery or church, which is now the see of St Asaph, from the name of his disciple. On the death of Markin, he was invited to return to Glasgow, by King Bedrath, his successor, who along with his chiefs and people, welcomed his return with

honour and joy. The remainder of his life was spent there in peaceful and prosperous labours, and he died about 601, and was buried in his own church, and his resting-place in the present day is pointed out in the magnificent crypt of the Cathedral.

The celebrated Columba, on one occasion, paid a visit to St Mungo, in the west. A meeting took place at Alcluyd, or Dumbarton, where Roderick, the Bountiful, king of Strathclyde, held his court. An emblematic representation of this meeting is to be seen on one of the stained glass windows put into the crypt of Glasgow cathedral in 1858. From Glasgow, they went on a missionary tour to Dunkeld, and, in company, preached the gospel to the men of Athole, and the surrounding people, who flocked in crowds to hear the glad tidings. This fellowship was accompanied by warm expressions of mutual esteem, which is an interesting fact. We have Columba and Mungo bearing testimony to the orthodoxy and piety of each other, and consequently, though indirectly, to the faith and piety of St Serf, the teacher of the latter.

The ruins of St Mungo's kirk in Culross are still to be seen, but as to when the church was built or abandoned is now unknown. It was, however, a place of grand resort by the Free Masons of Culross, in the last century. They were in the practice, on their great days, of walking in procession to the kirk. The interior of the ruin had been prepared for their reception, and furnished with tables and chairs, and there, the uninitiated having been zealously excluded, they performed their mystic rites. The Culross Lodge was a branch of the great St Mungo's Lodge of Glasgow, and of course had a sort of double ground for claiming affinity to the Saint, and performing their ceremonies within the precincts of his kirk. It is said, too, that the parent lodge of Glasgow was in the practice of sending representatives on such occasions.

Doubts are entertained as to whether Culross is entitled to claim the distinction of having been a Culdee settlement. In the opinion of many there was a college or seminary of learning there, but others, again, have failed to find proof of the existence of Culdees at Culross, though the balance of probability is in favour of the town having been a seat of the Culdees.

CLACKMANNAN CASTLE.

THE old Castle of Clackmannan is seen on the right, at the top of an eminence, and is most conspicuous from the river, commanding a magnificent view of the surrounding mountain range, the windings of the Forth, Stirling Castle, Bannockburn, and the distant Trossachs. Tradition asserts that the castle was built by the great King Robert Bruce and is consequently of peculiar interest to the visitor. All that now remains of its once lofty terraces is a large square tower of the architecture of the early part of the 14th century.

There is no doubt that the Barony of Clackmannan was the domain of the Liberator of Scottish Independence. King David Bruce, his son, resided there, for, in 1329, Reginaldi Moir, his chamberlain, issued his public accounts, "apud Clackmanane." The granaries at Clackmannan are also named in these accounts. Local names and traditions point out some curious matter in connection with the royal house. For instance, in the village, there is a large stone preserved with reverence. On this stone the great King Robert is said to have left his gauntlet when residing at the castle, and sending one of his knights, he used two words, *clack* a stone, and *mannan* a glove, from which it is said the county and town since derived their name. In the immediate neighbourhood of the castle is a farm, called the "King's Meadow;" another farm is named "Craigroy, or the King's Rock," all pointing at the illustrious name with which the history of this place was associated. In 1359, King David Bruce, by a royal charter, granted this castle and barony to Sir Robert de Bruce. In this charter the King styles him "his beloved cousin;" he also, by another charter of a later date, gives him the lands of Rate. Robert III. confirmed these charters, and this Sir Robert de Bruce was ancestor of Sir David Bruce, Baron of Clackmannan, who attended at the General Council held at Perth, Nov. 1516; his eldest son, John Bruce of Clackmannan, an ancestor of the Bruces, was long the feudal proprietor at that place. The last laird died in 1772. His widow was Catherine, a daughter of Bruce of Newton, a cadet of the house of Clackmannan. She survived to the year 1791, residing at the old house and town of Clackmannan. On distinguished friends she would sometimes confer the honour of knighthood with the two-handed

sword of her great ancestor, a ceremony by no means considered jocular or barren of distinction. With this sword she conferred that honour on the late Rev. Dr John Jamieson, the author of the *Scottish Dictionary*, whose mother was a daughter of John Clelland, by his wife Rachel Bruce, the daughter of Mr Bruce of Garlet. She also conferred the same favour on Sir Robert Strange, who had married Miss Lumsdane, also a cousin of the laird of Kennet. On Robert Burns visiting her in 1787, she conferred knighthood on the poet, remarking at the same time, that she "had a better right to do so than *some* folk." This sword, and what was said to be the helmet of King Robert Bruce, had been in the possession of the family from time immemorial, and was highly prized by the good old lady. The Earl of Buchan, a literary and antiquarian scholar of the past century, was anxious at her death to possess these relics, and wrote her the following letter, which is now for the first time printed from the original at Broomhall :—

"MADAM,—I believe Mrs Strange,* our worthy friend, has been my advocate with you, on the interesting subject of the sword and helmet of my great ancestor and your kinsman, King Robert Bruce. Allow me, madam, personally to advocate my pretensions, which I flatter myself you will hold to be superior to any person on this side of the water: 1st, I have the honor to be as nearly allied to the royal family of Bruce by descent in the lawful line as any subject in Europe; 2d, The mother of the first Bruce of Clackmannan was my aunt and daughter to the Lord Erskine; 3d, King Robert Bruce married the Earl of Mar's daughter, and Mar married the king's sister; 4th, I have been the means of restoring the study of the history and antiquities of Scotland, and of founding a society for the preserving the monuments and relics of ancient grandeur; 5th, The family of Kennet, which is the chief house of Bruce, next to yours of Clackmannan, did, in the person of the late excellent Lord Kennet, favour my suit for the sword and helmet; 6th, I have felt and feel more on these subjects than any other man who has proved the contrary of my assertions, by deeds, because there has been a long, a sad negligence in this country with respect to such venerable remains of antiquity; and 7th, and lastly, because if you are good enough to grant my request, I will place them in the museum of a great society in the event of my death, when they will be honoured and preserved for ever, to the honour of your name and character, and the glory of the great King with whose name they are connected. I

* Isabella, wife of Sir Robert Strange and daughter of Mr Lumsden, and niece of Mr Alex. Bruce of Garlet, second son of Bruce of Kennet.

entreat of you, madam, to weigh these pretensions, and to give such attention to them as you shall think they deserve, and that you will be persuaded that if I did not act for my country at large and for a great chartered body of men, I would not pretend to interfere with the family of Elgin on this subject.

"I am, madam, with great esteem, your obedient, humble servant,

"BUCHAN.

"Edinburgh, 21st April 1785."

To this letter Mrs Bruce of Clackmannan made the following reply :—

"MY LORD,—I have the honor of your Lordship's letter. The attention you pay to the antiquities of Scotland does your Lordship a great deal of honor, and the desire you show of preserving what will keep up the memory of the great King Robert Bruce is very proper. I am sorry I cannot grant your Lordship's request in giving up the sword and helmet, as I intend keeping them during my life, and in the event of my death they goe to those that I think has the best right to possess them. Our good friend, Lord Kennet, who was a worthy man, makes a prodigious blank in the neighbourhood. I am, your Lordship's most obedient, humble servant,

"KATHERINE BRUCE."

As most readers will be aware, Mrs Bruce, at her death, left the sword and helmet to the Earl of Elgin, the chief of the family, and they are now at Broomhall House.

THE EARL OF ELGIN AND KINCARDINE is now chief of the Bruces. He is descended from Sir Edward Bruce, the second brother of the before-named John Bruce of Clackmannan, who, with David, a younger son (now represented by Robert Bruce, Esq. of Kennet), were the sons of Sir David Bruce of Clackmannan. It may be here well to mention that the Bruces sprang from the ancient Sea Kings of Norway, long before the conquest of the famous Rollo, to whom they were allied. Their old castle in Normandy still exists, about seven miles from Valognes, the direct post road from that place to Cherbourg called Bruis to this day. Lord Robert de Bruce, a great Norman baron, assisted his kinsman in the conquest of England, and for his services was rewarded with large estates in Yorkshire. His descendant became settled in Scotland by marriage with the heiress of Annandale, and they became claimants to the Scottish throne by a union with the heiress of David, Earl of Huntingdon, brother and heir of William the Lion, King of Scotland, and the lady was the grandmother of the great king and restorer of the Scottish monarchy. When the Bruces came from Annandale to Clackmannan they brought with them many followers, bearing the name of Annan, and at Dollar and

other parts of the county there are still persons bearing that patronymic. It has been said in consequence that the *Clochan*, or Kirktoon of the *Annans*, was turned into *Clackmannan*. These traditions with regard to the name are of little value, seeing that, as early as the year 1195, we find Clackmannan mentioned in a bull of Pope Celestine III., as at that time, with its chapels and forty acres of land, belonging to the Abbey of Cambuskenneth. King Malcolm also granted the Mill of Clackmannan to the monks of that monastery, excepting at the same time the mullers of the King, when he should visit that place, showing at this early period it was a royal residence. It is also stated that at one time William the Lion resided here with his Court. It continued to be the property of the Crown of Scotland till granted by King David Bruce to his cousin, Sir Robert de Bruce, as before stated, since which period the Bruces have been proprietors. Lands in the immediate parishes were also granted by King Robert and David Bruce to various near members of the family. For instance, the Lordship of Alloa was granted to Sir Robert de Erskine, who was a nephew of Lady Mary Erskine, the wife of Thomas Bruce, a brother of King Robert. Shanbody was the property of Thomas de Moravia, Lord of Bothwell, whose mother was the sister of King Robert, and Rosyth was the castle of Sir James Stewart, a first cousin of Walter, the Lord High Steward of Scotland and husband of Margerie Bruce, the King's daughter, thus shewing that the Bruces had deserted their patrimony in Annandale and settled with the principal members of their family in and near the Royal Castle of Clackmannan.

Near to Clackmannan is Garlet, a quaint old house of the 17th century. It was given by Robert Bruce of Kennet to his second son, the Rev. Alex. Bruce, M.A., a distinguished minister of the Church of Scotland. He resided at Garlet till the early part of the 18th century. His son James, served heir to his father, 1727, was at that time settled in Barbadoes, of which island he became Chief Justice and Member of the Colonial Parliament. After acquiring an ample competence he returned to Scotland with his family, but shortly afterwards died in London. Mr William Downing Bruce, Barrister-at-Law, formerly of Kilbagie, now resident in London, is the descendant and representative of this gentleman.

AIRTH CASTLE

 **W**ES much to its situation for effect. It stands on the summit of a hill, rising about ninety feet above the low ground in the immediate neighbourhood of the Frith of Forth. To the north and west of the castle the hill sides are richly wooded—so, indeed, is the eastern slope ; but its side is varied by having placed upon it the secluded, and now deserted, ancient church of the castle and parish. This building if not possessing peculiar architectural expression, is interesting as one of the few existing churches in Scotland which remain under the shadow of the baronial residence. Airth Castle is now the property of the Grahams, whose ancestors purchased it from the Dundas family in the early part of the eighteenth century. This barony was formerly possessed by the De Airths, whose heiress married Sir Edward Bruce, a younger son of the Lord of Clackmannan. His son, Sir Robert Bruce, in 1508, rebuilt a portion of the castle, now remaining, to Sir Alexander Bruce, a descendant of this Sir Robert. King James VI., in 1596, granted certain privileges regarding the coals which were at that time worked here to a great extent, and from an agreement extant, dated 1614, betwixt Sir John Bruce, the then proprietor of Airth, Henry Gibb of London, and others, it appears that there was a contract on the part of Sir John to furnish coals to the extent of eight or ten thousand tons a-year, the price in London to be £13 for every score tons. Major Alexander Bruce, the last Baron of Airth of that name, distinguished himself in the low countries, and under Prince Rupert. He obtained, in 1657, from Lord Elphinstone, a grant of the lands Barony of Elphinstone with the Castle Tower. His daughter and heiress married Richard Elphinstone of Calder Hall, and their only child conveyed the estate by marriage to the Dundas's who sold them to the Grahams and purchased Blair.

The large square tower, on the left of the Castle, is believed to have been built previous to the battle of Falkirk in 1298. A priest of Dunipace, the uncle of Sir William Wallace, was confined in the west dungeon of this castle. The priest was rescued from his confinement by Sir William Wallace, since which time the tower is called "Wallace's Tower." The Eastern Tower and Turret were united to Wallace's Tower by the south front in the reign of James

the Sixth, when an addition was made to the north. Over the old entrance was the date of 1581, with the arms of Bruce and Elphinstone, to whom, as already stated, the mansion formerly belonged. The old part of the building is in the form of the letter V, but in 1807 the north wing was united to Wallace's Tower, by a castellated front, by Hamilton, a Glasgow architect.

The entrance Hall conducts to a saloon in an angle of the old building, from which the principal rooms enter. The dining-room is in the modern building, but the drawing-room occupies the south wing of the old. In the castle are three original portraits of three celebrated persons—the Marquis of Montrose—the Admiral Crichton—and Graham of Claverhouse, Viscount Dundee, besides many others which shall be immediately mentioned.

Mr Billings states that the Tower, and the adjoining buildings to the left, ornamented by four gabled dormer windows, are the eldest external portions of the castle, and date between 1550 and 1600. The parts attached to this block may have been built soon after the year last named; and one of the window heads of the eastern front, with its starry-fielded tympanum, belongs to the more recent parts. In immediate contiguity to the over-hanging battlement, appear the conically-covered turret (said to be of French or Flemish origin), and the open corbelled bartizan, the invariable foundation of the covered turret. It may be stated that the battlemented bartizan was a decided feature both of English and Scotch architecture, before any connection existed between Scotland and the Continent; and this peculiarity of Airth forms matter for the consideration of those who contend that Scotch "pepper-box" turrets were entirely borrowed from the foreigner,—for, whatever their head may be, it is certain that their body is of native origin,—and there are several instances where the old open battlemented bartizan has had a more recent covering, transforming it into a turret.

Amongst the pictures at Airth Castle are the following:—Portrait of James II. of England, when High Admiral of that kingdom; the son of James II., commonly called the old Chevalier; his wife Princess Clementina Sobieski of Poland; Prince Charles Stuart, the young Chevalier; his brother, Cardinal of York, and last of the Stuart line; Marquis of Montrose, who lost his life for the Stuart family; Lord Dundee, commonly called Claverhouse, who fell at Killiecrankie; Admiral Crichton of the family of Cluny; the last Earl of Callander and Lithgow, grandfather to the Earl of Errol; Lady Mary Graham, daughter

of the Earl of Callander, and sister to the Earl of Lithgow ; Lady Harriet Livingstone, sister of Lady Mary Graham ; James Graham, Esq. of Airth, Advocate, Dean of Faculty, and Judge of the Court of Admiralty ; Mrs Graham of Airth, widow of William Graham, Esq. of Airth, who died 1796 ; James Graham, Esq. of Airth, son of Wm. Graham, Esq. ; Sir Walter Raleigh, who wrote an important historical work, and sailed round the globe. In addition to these very fine portraits, there are various pictures by Tennyers, Wooverman, and other old masters. There is in the outer lobby a fruit piece by an Alloa artist. There is an original picture of the great Montrose, given to Dr Wright, his son's tutor, and given to Mr Graham by Mr Edmonston of Carnwath. In the inner lobby or tribune, there is a picture of James Graham who went abroad in the 45 with Prince Charles and never returned, and portraits of Mrs M'Dowall of Castle Semple, daughter of James Graham of Airth, 1746 ; of Mrs Dundas of Carronhall, 1740 ; Colonel Russell, Woodside ; Mrs Dundas of Carronhall, daughter of James Graham, Esq. of Airth ; Cardinal Baroncio ; Bonaparte ; J. T. Stirling of Strowan. There are also a Judith, holding the head of Holifernas ; Mercury charming Argus ; Mary washing the feet of our Saviour ; a picture of our Saviour painted on wood, with Publius Lentilus' letter to the Senate of Rome ; the Wise Men making their offering, by Titian—painted on wood.

In Airth itself, there is little that is note-worthy, save an old market-cross, having on it the arms of Elphinstone and Bruce, but the mention of this village brings to one's recollection the circumstance that here resided for the period of eight-and-twenty years the respected author of the highly popular and beautiful song, "Kelvin Grove." Mr Thomas Lyle, though a native of Paisley, officiated in Airth for the time specified as a medical practitioner, having obtained, in 1816, the diploma of a surgeon from the University of Glasgow. While in Airth, Mr Lyle not only wrote "Kelvin Grove," but other songs of considerable merit. Botany was also a favourite study with Mr Lyle, and from Airth he frequently made long excursions in furtherance of his botanical knowledge. In 1853, he proceeded to Glasgow, having obtained an appointment there as one of the city district surgeons, and there he died.

KINCARDINE

IS a Burgh of Barony in the Parish of Tulliallan, pleasantly situated on the north bank of the Forth, in the southern detached part of Perthshire, five miles E. from Alloa. At one time it received the name of New Pans, in consequence of its great trade in Salt making; there being about the close of last century upwards of forty salt pans in operation within the environs of the parish. But these, as well as the name which they superinduced, have all disappeared, and the appropriate and more euphonious name, "Kincardine"—"the Head of the Shore"—has been awarded to the little seaport. The houses, although displaying little uniformity in their style of architecture, are in general plain, neat, and substantial buildings; the majority of them roofed with red tiles. The streets are narrow and exceedingly irregular, and the side walks being only partially paved, they are in wet weather very dirty. Some fifty years ago Kincardine was famous for its shipbuilding—a department of trade at that time conducted by David Gray and Ralph Rae. It was then not uncommon to see from 12 to 15 vessels on the stocks at one time. Rope and sail making was carried on very briskly. The present excellent rope work was established in 1815. A brewery was started in 1826, but the projector was unsuccessful and it changed hands. In 1818, Blackhall Distillery was in the zenith of its power; but it is now extinct.

The old Established Church of the parish, situated at the head of the "Kirk Brae," and now in ruins, was built in the year 1675; a new one, a plain edifice with turreted steeple, was opened in 1833. The United Presbyterian place of worship was erected in 1820, and through the energy and determination of the Rev. Dr M'Farlane, the pastor of the congregation, recently of Erskine Church, Glasgow, now pastor of Clapham Road congregation, London, was the first Dissenting church in Scotland adorned with a steeple, and enjoying the privilege of its own bell. The Free Church, a modest unassuming one-storey structure, was opened in 1844. Kincardine has a good harbour for vessels, and a substantial shipping-quay, erected in 1810 at an expense of £5000. An embankment, stretching from the shore of Kincardine to Kennetpans, encloses an area of about 140 acres, 120 of which are most excellent carse land. Another embankment to the east-

ward encloses 240 acres of very rich land. The expense attending this embankment, which is about a mile in length, cost about £20,000.

The chief object of interest to a stranger is the Castle, a fine old Gothic pile, a few minutes' walk west of the town. This ancient stronghold was the family residence of the Blackaders for five successive generations.* In 1798 the estate of Tulliallan came into the possession of Lord Keith of Elphinstone, and the fine old castle, so long the family residence of the Earls of Kincardine, although habitable at that time, was unroofed by some modern goth, and allowed to crumble into ruins.

Ah me! how changed;—
Now lonely stands the venerable pile
Reft of its pristine glory and a prey
To every ruthless blast. Memento sad!
Of scenes of yore, when, as the bugle swelled,—
With kindred spirits the bold Blackader hied
To form the tinchel wide with Scotia's king,
Or revelled in the hall with sumptuous glee,
'Midst all the luxuries of a ruder age.

* Patrick Blackader, grandson of the redoubted borderer Cuthbert Blackader of Blackader Castle, "Chieftain of the South," married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir James Edmiston, great grandson of King Robert II., and with her received the estate of Tulliallan, which had been gifted to the Edmiston family by Earl Douglas in 1402, and confirmed to Sir James by royal charter in 1456. Although Sir Patrick was "ane great hunter and halker," yet, learning seems not to have been neglected in his family. Robert, his eldest son, was bishop of St Andrews, and was in 1484 translated to Glasgow. In 1488 the see of Glasgow was extended, and he had the honour of being its first archbishop. Places of distinction were successively held by various branches of the family. The last proprietor of the name was Sir John, who was born in 1596. He was created by Charles I. a baronet of Nova Scotia, and was, in the order of his patent, which is dated 18th July, 1626, the fourth knight baronet in Scotland. He was a man of profuse and expensive habits, and his fine estate, which, with its lime works, salt pans, &c., yielded a yearly rental of 36,000 merks, he squandered away, leaving scarcely anything but an empty title to survive his prodigality. His effects being seized, he fled to the continent, and appears to have been in the French service in 1642. He died in America in 1681. His lady, Elizabeth Graham, daughter of the Earl of Menteith had an annuity of 360 merks, and appears to have resided in Tulliallan Castle till 1662. Alexander, the heir to the estate, unable to extricate it from the load of debts contracted by his father, it was brought to a judicial sale by order of the Court of Session, and was purchased by Colonel John Erskine, son of David, Lord Cardross, in 1700. The Rev. John Blackader, minister of Troqueer, who in 1681 was banished to the Bass Rock, was a lineal descendant of this family, and in him was inherent the title of Knight Baronet. His youngest son was the famous Lieutenant Colonel of the Cameronian Regiment, an amiable, eloquent, and benevolent Christian gentleman. Latterly he was appointed Deputy-Governor of Stirling Castle, and died in 1729.

No tapestry now hangs in rich festoons ;
 No fair one's scintillations charm the scene ;
 No wayworn palmer threads his wondrous tales ;
 No more the bugle echoes through the hall ;
 All, all, are fled ! and now rank hemlock weeds
 And nettles drape the walls, which mournful sigh
 At each relentless breeze. The chimney top,
 All shattered, forms an eyry to the owl,
 That, with dire minstrelsy, the vesper chants ;
 And 'mong the lumber, daws a shelter find,
 Whose croaking din is all that greets your ear
 As silently you gaze, in thoughtful mood,
 On arches, buttresses, and massive walls,
 Graved by time's tooth, and crumbling into dust.

His lordship in 1818-20 built a very elegant modern mansion on an elevated ground, overlooking the town from the north, and commanding a magnificent prospect. The grey peaks of Demyat, with Ben Lomond, Ben Ledi, Ben Voirlich, and the distant mountains of Argyleshire, bound the view to the right ; Cocklerae, Cairn-maple, and their neighbouring heights, with the more distant Lanarkshire mountains, bound the view in front—while the Pentlands close in the view to the left. In the immediate foreground are Stirling, Dunmore, Airth, Falkirk, Grangemouth, Bo'ness, Blackness—the ancient emporium of this part of Scotland, &c.,—while immediately beneath, the clear winding Forth in its wayward course from Stirling Bridge to St Margaret's Hope, is distinctly seen. This fine mansion is beautifully surrounded with woods—intersected with numerous and romantic walks, which open up a variety of richly luxuriant, soft, sylvan scenery, at once pleasing and picturesque. Flower and kitchen gardens were also formed on an extensive scale and very tastefully laid out. Lord Keith lived not long to enjoy the many improvements he had made. He died in 1823, and his remains were interred within the precincts of the ruins of the Old Overton Church, the family burying-place of the Blackaders. His monumental tablet bears the inscription—

ADMIRAL LORD VISCOUNT KEITH,
 BORN AT ELPHINSTONE, 7TH JANUARY, 1747 ;
 DIED AT TULLIALLAN, 10TH MARCH, 1823.

His Lordship's daughter, Margaret Mercer Elphinstone, born 12th June 1788, succeeded to the Baronies of Keith, 10th March 1823, and to that of Nairne, 7th Dec., 1828. On 19th June, 1817, the Baroness married Auguste-Charles-Joseph, Comte de Flahault, the present French Ambassador at St James's. Count Flahault is a veteran of the first Empire ; he was born at Paris in 1785 ; was a soldier

under Murat, Berthier, and Napoleon ; was Ambassador at Vienna for six years, from 1842 to 1848, and knowing his great talents and varied experience was appointed by Napoleon III. Ambassador to England in 1860. The eldest daughter of Count Flauhault and the Baroness Keith, the hon. Emily-Jane, born 16th May, 1819, married, 1st Novr. 1843, Henry Earl of Shelbourne, eldest surviving son of the Marquis of Lansdowne, and the son of this union, Viscount Clan Maurice, born in 1845, will eventually succeed to the Tulliallan Estates.

Kincardine has always boasted of rather a superior supply of ministers, but few men of literary merit claim it as their birth-place. One, the late amiable Adam Anderson, professor of Natural Philosophy in St Andrews, will long be remembered as a brilliant luminary by the citizens of Perth, among whom he resided nearly 40 years, as well as by the inhabitants of St Andrews, where he spent his declining days. Sir James Wylie, too, late surgeon to the Emperor of Russia, and who rose into extraordinary favour at the Russian Court, and was created a baronet at the express desire of the Emperor, claims mention here. The distinguished baronet was born in the vicinity of Kincardine, where he spent many of his earlier years, and where his only surviving brother, Mr Walter Wylie, still resides. Sir James died at St Petersburg in 1854, in the 84th year of his age, leaving property to the value of about a million sterling. The greater part of this was bequeathed to purposes connected with Russia, but a sum of £50,000, invested in the English funds, (increased by interest to £67,000,) occasioned a prolonged litigation. It was contended by the Russian executors that Sir James Wylie had, by his will, disposed of that sum, but it was successfully maintained by the next of kin that as regards the £50,000 in the English funds the deceased baronet had died intestate. After passing through three English Courts, the case was finally appealed to the House of Lords, who, in April last, gave judgment in favour of the claims of the next of kin in Scotland.

Kincardine is very unfavourably situated as regards railway accommodation, what is known as the "Kincardine Station" being three miles distant from the town. When the steamers on the Forth are laid aside during the winter months, the inhabitants are thus subjected to great inconvenience. From these and other causes the population and trade of the place have been perceptibly decreasing for many years.

DUNMORE PARK,

THE fine seat of the noble Family of Dunmore, is situated a short distance further up the river than the castle of Airth. The House has inscribed upon its main entrance 'Furth Fortune: 1822,' the inscription on the Family escutcheon being "Furth Fortune and fill the fetters." Amongst the paintings in Dunmore House is a portrait of the first Earl of Dunmore, by Sir Godfrey Kneller; there is a portrait of Lord John, the "old Virginian Earl," by Sir Joshua Reynolds. There are also valuable paintings by Salvator Rosa and Vandyck. Earl George, the 5th Earl of Dunmore, was a nobleman of considerable scientific attainments and literary tastes. Alexander Edward, the sixth Earl, died in 1845. He was for some time in the 9th Lancers and 10th Hussars. He fell from his horse in the streets of Hanover, when returning from a visit to the King, and received a wound from which, though he lingered a long time, he ultimately died. The present noble Lord attained his majority in March last, having been born 24th March 1841. His uncles, the Hon. Charles Augustus Murray and Captain the Hon. Henry Murray, have both written works descriptive of tours made by them in the United States of America. The Countess of Dunmore, the mother of the present Earl, and who was sister to the late lamented Lord Herbert, was left at an early age with the sole charge of her family, and not only devoted herself to their education, but ably performed the difficult task of guardian and manager of the estates of Dunmore. Besides succeeding to the responsibilities of her station and position, she had left under her management the island of Harris, in Inverness-shire, and it is honouring to the Countess that the islanders look upon her as their greatest benefactor, so much had the appearance of the island of late years been changed for the better. Residing with the Countess of Dunmore at Dunmore House, are her daughters, the Ladies Constance and Alexandrina Murray—a third daughter, the eldest, Lady Susan Catherine Mary Murray, having been married, in November 1860, to the Earl of Southesk.

The late Earl of Dunmore, Alexander-Edward Murray, was born 1st June 1804, succeeded to the estates 11th Nov. 1836, and on 27th September 1836, married Lady Catherine Herbert, fourth daughter of George Augustus, 11th Earl of Pembroke. His Lordship died 15th July 1845, and was succeeded by his only son, Charles-Adolphus, the present Earl, a young nobleman of high promise.

THE TOWN AND TOWER OF ALLOA.

DEFOE, writing 130 years ago, assures us that "it would be lessening the place to attempt the Description of *Alloway*, unless there was room to do it compleatly ; 'tis enough to say it requires a Book, not a page or two : There is, in a word, everything that nature and art can do, brought to perfection. The town is pleasant, well built, and full of trade ; for the whole country has some business or other with them, and they have a better navigation than most of the towns on the Firth, for a ship of 300 ton may lye also at the very wharf ; so that at *Alloway* a merchant may trade to all parts of the World, as well as at *Leith* or at *Glasgow*."

The advance of years has not diminished the truthfulness or applicability of these remarks by Defoe, though, looking to the eulogistic terms employed, one might have thought the symptoms of "perfection" would have been more decided. Nevertheless, since the days in which flourished the ingenious and accomplished author of "*The Life and Surprising Adventures of Robinson Crusoe*," the good town of Alloa has been keeping pretty well abreast of the times, and its resources as a mining, manufacturing, agricultural, and commercial district, have been wonderfully developed. That Alloa is an active centre of trade and manufactures may be gathered from the fact that the comparatively small county of which it is the leading town contributes, from the excise duties arising from spirits, malt, &c., about a sixty-eighth part of the revenue of the United Kingdom. Great quantities of coal from the neighbouring collieries are daily shipped at Alloa, and the wet dock, now nearly completed, and which has been constructed at great expense by the Trustees for the harbour, will give increased facilities to vessels loading and discharging at this port. The ale breweries, the bottle works, the woollen mills, the iron foundries and copper works, in addition to a great diversity of establishments of lesser magnitude, afford employment, in the aggregate, to a large body of operatives, while the new public buildings completed or in progress indicate a growing prosperity. There are two weekly newspapers published in the district, and almost every village in the county has its printing press.

In 1854, the householders of Alloa, in public meeting assembled, adopted the Police and Improvement Act,—an



Act "to make more effectual provision for regulating the police of towns, and populous places in Scotland, and for paving, draining, cleaning, lighting, and improving the same." With a burgh assessment of 2s per £. many important repairs and improvements have been effected, but there is a prevailing belief that the cost of upholding the police department of the Burgh establishment exceeds the value of the services rendered. James Moir, Esq., banker, has occupied the honoured position of Chief Magistrate of the Burgh since the year 1856.

That Alloa has all the elements of great material prosperity, and that her citizens are increasing in substantial wealth, cannot be questioned. Nevertheless, the recent census indicates, as compared with that of 1851, a declension in the numbers of the population, and it must be admitted there is sound truth in the well known couplet—

"Ill fares that land, to hast'ning ills a prey
Where wealth accumulates and men decay."

The decrease seems to arise chiefly from two causes. About the time of the census of 1851, there was a considerable number of railway labourers in the parish, as the line of railway passing through it was not then completed, and since that time also there has been extensive emigration, especially among the labouring population. To these causes may be added the collapse of a large woollen manufacturing establishment, which in 1851 was affording employment to several hundreds of operatives.

Alloa is blessed with excellent schools, estimable clergymen, and medical gentlemen who are an honour to their profession. It was the birth-place of David Allan, the "Hogarth of Scotland," who while yet a youth gave such proofs of his progress as a painter, that his patrons formed a joint-stock purse and sent him to Rome to complete his studies. There he resided nine years and contended for the prize, "the history of painting," and gained it. After having followed his profession with much success, he died at Edinburgh in 1797. The late Robert Bald, eminent as a mining engineer, who was a native of Alloa, and died there in the 86th year of his age, contributed much, along with the Earl of Shaftesbury, to mitigate the degrading and slavish work of the coal mines, and generally to elevate the condition and enhance the comfort of the male and female mining population. The mother of Lord Brougham, Eleonora Syme, was, as appears from the Session records of births and baptisms, "baptized before the congregation," in the parish church of Alloa, 18th December, 1751.

ALLOA TOWER

Will be found the chief object of interest to the visitor to Alloa, but unfortunately access to the interior is very difficult to obtain—"John Francis Earl of Mar, Lord Erskine Garioch, and Alloa ; Earl of Kellie Viscount Fenton Baron Dirleton," being himself the custodian. With the family of Mar, Queen Mary, while reigning in Scotland, cultivated the closest friendship. They had the guardianship of three generations of the royal family in childhood, and during that period, gave one regent to Scotland, and various high officers of State, but were injured in fortune during the civil war. Hence the difficulties which are supposed to have caused John, the tenth Earl, to take a prominent part in the insurrection of 1719. During the course of that national convulsion, Alloa House was frequently threatened with fire, by the royal army which occupied all this part of the country. Accidentally, however, it was destroyed by a dreadful conflagration, on the evening of 28th of August, 1800, and nothing left of the extensive range of buildings save the present Tower. In tender lines which display chivalrous and poetic feeling, a local poet thus plaintively alludes to this hoary relic of the thirteenth century:—

The warder lies still 'neath the sod of the valley,
The war-pipes are mute round the halls of the brave,
Those chieftains that once round thy standard would rally,
Oblivion has wrapt in the gloom of the grave.

No more shall the beacon's blaze, wide o'er the heath,
Return as a dream of the war-stirring past,—
Thy heroes lie cold, still their glory shall breathe
A charm o'er their fallen state, ever to last.

The tilt and the tourney no more shall awaken
The fire of the Minstrel, in love's stirring strain—
The dance and the wine-cup in thee long forsaken,
Have left but a shadow—the wreck of thy fame.

The war-steed has fled from the field of thy glory,
The belted knight slumbers in death's silent fold,
No stone marks his grave, but the peasant's sad story,
In the breast of his country, his deeds hath enroll'd.

Gone is the strength of the spear and the buckler,
Dim are the shields in the halls of the great,
The dark ivy twines round thy mouldering turrets,
Spell-bound to retard the sad mandate of fate.

Then wave ye wild weeds o'er the birth-place of merit—
Lone stranger disturb not the tombs of the brave;
Ye night-owls unhallow'd, those mansions inhabit,
Where ne'er was imprinted the foot of the slave.

John Francis Erskine, Earl of Mar and Kellie, was born 28th Decr. 1795, succeeded 20th Sept. 1828, married 24th April 1827, Philadelphia, eldest daughter of Sir Charles-Granville Stuart-Menteith, Bart. The Countess of Mar died, without issue, on the 15th of Decr. 1853, in the 60th year of her age. A sister of the present and sixteenth Earl, Lady-Frances Jemima, died 19th June 1842, having married, 12th Oct. 1830, William-James Goodeve, Esq., of Bath, by whom she has left an only son, John-Francis, heir-presumptive to the Earldom of Mar. The Earldom of Kellie descends to a cousin of the present Earl, Lieut.-Colonel Walker Erskine, son of the late Hon. Henry David Erskine. The reason of the division of the Mar and Kellie titles now is that the Earldom of Mar goes to heirs in general, while the Earldom of Kellie is of a more recent date, and is limited to heirs male. The estates of Mar and Kellie devolve on Colonel Erskine.

Amongst the collection of portraits in Alloa House are the following—John Earl of Mar, Treasurer of Scotland. (This picture is slightly scorched by the fire of 1800.) Mr Henry Erskine, son of Charles Earl of Mar, born 1680, killed at the battle of Almanza in 1707. Lady Harrington, Countess of Bedford, aunt of Anne Lady Bruce, mother to Robert Lord Bruce, Earl of Ailesbury and Elgin, 1620. Lady Mary Maule, daughter of George, Earl of Panmure, married to Charles, tenth Earl of Mar. His Grace the Duke of Queensberry, by Sir Godfrey Kneller. Lady Mary Scott, eldest daughter of Walter, first Earl of Buccleuch, and wife of John 16th Lord Erskine, and 9th Earl of Mar; she had no issue. (Painted by Sir P. Lillie.) Full length portrait of James Erskine, Esq., Lord Grange. Lady Frances Erskine, daughter of 16th Earl of Mar, born 1715, married in 1740, to her cousin, James Erskine, Esq. of Grange. She died 1776. John Lord Erskine, 6th Earl of Mar, son of John Earl of Mar and Lady Margaret Campbell. His claim to the Earldom of Mar was cleared, and his right being distinctly proven, he was restored 1662; respected in Parliament, 1663; on the Earl of Lennox being killed in 1571, he was chosen Regent; he had distinguished himself amid all the distractions of the times by his moderation, his humanity, and his disinterestedness; both parties acknowledged his views to be honourable, and his integrity uncorrupted. He died 1572.

THE "HILLFOOTS."

HOULD the tourist or antiquarian fail to find in Alloa much that is noteworthy, he will have less reason to complain should he approach nearer the base of the ever verdant Ochils. Proceeding eastwards, he will see Shawpark, once the beautiful seat of Lord Cathcart, who commanded the British expedition which bombarded Copenhagen, now the property and a seat of the Earl of Mansfield, Lord-Lieutenant of the county of Clackmannan. Near to this mansion are the remains of an old castle, long the residence of the families of Shaw, the founder of which was a younger son of Duncan, Earl of Fife. A furlong or two distant is Sauchie mine, known as the burning mine, where, in 1830 seven lives were lost by a subterranean conflagration. In 1851, Messrs Goldsworthy Gurney, Mather, and Darlington, endeavoured, with partial success, to reduce the fire by filling the mine with carbonic acid gas. Still moving eastwards, the river and valley of Devon come into view—the former celebrated in song by Burns in his "Banks of the Devon,"—the latter the theme of a sweet lyric by the late Captain Charles Gray, R.N., a warm friend of the late Professor Tennant, the closing stanza of which thus runs :

" Dear Vale of the Devon ! O still may I share
The love and affection of some that dwell there ;
Lo ! the sails are unfurled, and soon must I steer
From country and kindred—from all I held dear ;
And the day is far distant ere back I may rove,
Like the dove o'er the waters, to sweet Devon Grove."

To the river and valley of Devon, the Ochil hills form a beauteous barrier, contributing to ward off the inclement northern winds, and rendering the locality worthy of being prized, as it has been, as the "Montpelier of Scotland." But the tourist is now in the midst of that important woollen manufacturing district, embracing Tillicoultry, Devonvale, Devonside, Alva, and Menstry, known as the "Hillfoots." Slowly, but progressively, has the shawl trade of the Hillfoots emerged during the past century from its narrow limits, till now that it has attained, amid, it is true, varying and painful vicissitudes, an extraordinary

measure of prosperity—a prosperity which astonishes some of the living pioneers of the trade—for the clan and fancy tartans here produced, are scattered over every land, and are now worn in all ranks, while the finer fabrics have oftener than once received the approbation of Royalty. A single manufactory gives employment to upwards of a thousand operatives, and every year witnesses the erection of some new mill, or an extension of one or more of the established factories. The energy and mechanical genius, therefore, which have carried the shawl trade to such perfection, will not become dormant when, in seasons of depression, derangements and privations are occasioned in the midst of an industrial community.

Extending from Dunblane, in Perthshire, many miles in an easterly direction into the county of Fife, the Ochil hills, (which meet the Grampians beyond Stirling Castle), while affording excellent pasture, afford a pleasing picture of rural scenery and pastoral life. "Swelling hills covered with flocks of sheep and herds of cattle; rivulets stealing through the defiles, or falling in hoarse murmurs from precipitous cliffs; with villages, hamlets, and farm-houses, sometimes skirted with, and sometimes enclosed in, woods, rise in charming succession." The pedestrian tourist may, if he please, ascend from Alva or Tillicoultry to the summit of Demyat or Bencleuch,—the highest hills of the Ochil range, and from either he will obtain a view as romantic and beautiful as varied and extensive. The Ochils abound in minerals, and silver mines were long ago worked here, but the labour expended was far from being adequately remunerated. Veins of copper have also been found in the Tillicoultry hills, but the ore obtained did not cover the expense of working them.

Moving eastwards from the "Hillfoots," the tourist will pass HARVIESTON CASTLE, the property of Sir Andrew Orr of Harvieston and Castle Campbell. The fine estate of Harvieston was formerly the property of Mr Crawford Tait, and his son, the present Bishop of London, resided here for many years during the summer season, along with the other members of the family. An admirable inscription on the monument to the memory of the late Mr Tait will be found transcribed in the section of this work set apart to "Churches and Cemeteries."

DOLLAR, famous for its educational institution, and having as Principal a gentleman of high scholastic attainments, the Rev. John Milne, LL.D., with a staff of eight or ten teachers, besides assistants, in the departments of science, literature, and the fine arts, here claims mention

At present the school is attended by fully 500 pupils, and in consequence of the liberal endowment the admission fees are extremely reasonable, even to the numerous body of young ladies and gentlemen who are boarded with families at Dollar, but who are unconnected with the parish. The Institution has been recognised by the Secretary of State for India in Council as possessing an efficient class for civil engineering, so that students who pass two years here are admitted to compete for engineering appointments in India. Immediately behind the village, stands, on the brow of an almost isolated rock, CASTLE CAMPBELL. The date of this ancient pile is so remote as to baffle all the researches of the antiquary. It is now little else than a stately ruin, its still lofty and stern, though shattered and crumbling walls, bearing evident testimony to its former greatness and pride. As far back as the time of Bruce, this fortress can be traced as the property of the Argyle family, and prior to that period it is supposed to have appertained to the Crown. In 1645, the Marquis of Montrose in passing through this district, caused Castle Campbell to be set on fire in revenge of injuries done him by Argyle on a previous occasion ; and since this burning it has been allowed gradually to moulder away, till nothing now remains of its ancient vastness and strength, save one massive square tower, surrounded by roofless and blackened walls.

The tourist will not have made a pilgrimage to Castle Campbell, without having also formed the determination (even though the Devon Valley line of railway, extending from Tillicoultry to Kinross, is not yet completed), to visit those celebrated cascades, forming the Falls of Devon,—the more remarkable of which are the RUMBLING BRIDGE, CALDRON LINN, and DEVIL'S MILL. These Falls are but four or five miles from Dollar, and if the tourist fails to be delighted with the grandeur of the picture presented to him by this series of waterfalls, amid scenery at once diversified and sublime, he may possibly derive comfort at the Rumbling Bridge hotel, where he will meet with the best and most genial of landlords—Mr Duncan Macara—a gentleman who much admires these lines of Shenstone :

“ Whoe'er has travelled life's dull round,
Whate'er his stages may have been ;
May sigh to think he still has found
His warmest comfort at an Inn.”

CAMBUSKENNETH ABBEY.

[From Mr Billings's Baronial and Ecclesiastical Antiquities.]

THE massive tower depicted in the accompanying plate is nearly the sole remaining vestige of the great Abbey of St Mary, Cambuskenneth, the power and ancient opulence of which have no unapt representative in its massive and strong proportions, and simple yet dignified decorations. Although only about two miles distant from Stirling Castle, it is situated within the county of Clackmannan, close on the edge of the river Forth, which—

“ In measured gyres doth whirl herself about,
That, this way, here, and there, back, forward, in and out;
And like a sportive nymph, oft doubling in her gait
In labyrinth-like turns, and twinings intricate,
Through those rich fields doth run.”

It would be difficult to imagine a better description of the Forth at Cambuskenneth, than Drayton has here given of the Ouse. Windings would be an improper term for a succession of circular sweeps, in which two parts of the river, miles distant by the course of the stream, sometimes come within not many yards of each other across the land. More descriptively, they are termed “links” or “loops,” and in one of these stand the remains of the Abbey—the old tower with its staircase nearly complete, the broken Gothic arch of a gateway, some crumbling walls, and the hoary remnants of an orchard, which in their green old age still annually recal to remembrance the proverbial proficiency of the monks in the science of horticulture. For many miles up and down, the loops of the river wind through a cake of deep rich alluvial mould, which must have been one successive garden when the surrounding rocks, yielding to the pressure of a later cultivation, were a rugged wilderness. It is a popular rhyme of the district that “a loop of the Forth is worth an earldom of the North,” and the heavy rich crops of those higher classes of grain produce, for which only a limited portion of the land of Scotland is adapted, still in some measure justify the comparison. The view from the tower is one of the finest mixtures of the grand in nature, and the cultivated in art, that British scenery can exhibit. Close around are the windings of the river, and the rich abundant produce—farther off rise the rocks and towers of “grey Stirling, guardian of the North,” and at greater distance to the West and North, the highland mountains and the bold chain of the Ochils. The style of architecture

is the early English, with the slightest possible marks of a transition into the immediate succeeding era, as in the crimped niche over the doorway.

This establishment was founded by King David about the year 1147. An attested copy of the foundation charter is still extant, recommending itself to a belief in its authenticity by its comprehensive brevity—it occupies only one of the short pages of the Chartulary. The grant is made by the King, with the consent of Henry, his son, and the confirmation and attestation of the Prelates, Counts, and Barons of the kingdom, and is in favour of the Church of St Mary of Striveling, and the Canons regularly residing there. The list of temporalities begins with the lands of Cambuskenneth—whence the establishment subsequently derived its name; it includes the fishings between these lands and Polmaise, one net in the water. It includes part of the royal revenue from the burgh of Stirling. The “~~pane~~” of one ship, a salt pan, and some feu duties. This document was preserved in an authorised transcript with the other muniments of the institution, owing to an application by the Abbot and fraternity of the monastery, to the King in Council in 1535. They complained that the place where their muniments were deposited was ill-aired and damp, that the seals were decaying and the writing becoming obliterated, and they prayed that a copy of all their title-deeds might be made book-wise in parchment, and officially authenticated. A day was appointed in which all parties interested, either as supporting or impugning documents, were cited to appear, and the various writings were copied into a volume, which, being authenticated by the great seal, was declared to bear the same faith with the originals. This parchment record, consisting of 166 leaves, each perforated by a thick cord of silk, which, passing through the whole volume, had the great seal formally appended to it, is now in the Advocates’ Library.

The Abbey, makes its earliest appearance in Scottish history in the year 1258. The choice of a Bishop of Glasgow was then the point on which turned the predominance of the Scottish or the English party in the councils of the kingdom, and being an ecclesiastical question, the Pope interfered by excommunicating the opponents of Gamelin, the Bishop elect and representative of the Scottish interest. The power of the other party rendered it difficult to publish the sentence, but a favourable opportunity being found, the awful solemnity was performed with bell and candle by the Abbots of Jedburgh and Melrose, in the Abbey

Church of Cambuskenneth. The next mention of the establishment has not so patriotic an appearance—in 1296, we find the Abbot Patrick doing fealty to Edward I. In the ensuing year, a scene of a very different character occurred, when Wallace's troops, stationed close to the Abbey, gained the celebrated victory over Cressingham, usually called the Battle of Stirling. In 1326, history records an event within these monastic walls totally distinct in character from either of those already mentioned, and scarcely less important in its consequences than the career of Wallace—the first ascertained appearance of the representatives of the civic corporations as a constituent part of the Parliament of Scotland. The main purpose for which this Parliament was assembled, was the recording of the national allegiance to David, the son of Robert the Bruce, as the heir of that victorious monarch; and a king who had acquired so strong a hold on the hearts of his people, would naturally feel that any extension of the grand council of the nation, which he could safely create for such an occasion, would only be a widening of the circle of the supporters of his dynasty. The monastery shares with Iona, Dunfermline, Scone, and Holyrood, the distinction of being a place of sepulture for members of the royal family, and in 1488 it received within its burial vaults a corpse found in an open field hard by, which history faintly attests as that of the murdered monarch James III., whose wife was buried within the same precincts.

Many of the Abbots of Cambuskenneth held office of State in Scotland. Patrick Panther or Paniter, who was Abbot during the reign of James IV., was a celebrated scholar and practical statesman. David Panther—a man whose name more frequently occurs in works of reference, believed to have been his near relation—was commendator of the Abbey close on the verge of the Reformation, he died in 1558. The celebrated scholar Thomas Ruddiman, found some diplomatic papers issued in the name of the Scottish monarchs, so elegant in their latinity, that he deemed them, on that account, worthy of publication, and in 1722, they were issued in two volumes with the title "*Epistolæ Jacobi Quarti, Quinti et Mariæ Reginae Scotorum earumque Tutorum et Regni Gubernatorum.*" The first volume of this collection is generally understood to have been the work of Robert Panther, and the greater part of the second to have been that of David, who was Secretary of State and a Privy Councillor during the latter part of the reign of James V. and the infancy of Queen Mary.

The temporalities of Cambuskenneth were conveyed by

James VI., along with those of some other religious houses to the Earl of Mar. The property continued in the possession of his representatives, the Erskines of Alva, until the year 1709, "when it was purchased by the Town Council of Stirling, for the benefit of Cowan's hospital, to which it still belongs."

If tradition is to be credited, it was not far from that part of the Forth where the waters sweep past the Abbey of Cambuskenneth, that the brass collar of a Scottish slave of the eighteenth century was recovered, and which is still preserved in the Museum of the Scottish Antiquaries to which it was presented in 1784. In his "Prehistoric Annals of Scotland," Dr Daniel Wilson states that the collar in question is inscribed in accordance with the terms of the following verdict, which shews that the case was not singular; and having been dredged up in the Firth of Forth, it seems sufficiently probable that the unhappy victim may have chosen death in preference to the doom from which there was no release.

"At Perth the 5th day of December 1701 years, the Commissioners of Justiciary of the south district, for securing the peace of the Highlands, considering that Donald Robertson, Alexander Stewart, John Robertson, and Donald M'Donald, prisoners, within the Tolbooth of Perth, and indicted and tried at this Court, are by verdict of the inquest returned GUILTY OF DEATH; and that the Commissioners have changed their punishment of death to perpetual servitude; and that the said pannels are at the court's disposal: Therefore the said Commissioners have given and gifted, and hereby give and gift, the said Alexander Stewart, one of the said prisoners, as ane perpetual servant to Sir John Areskine of Alva, recommending him to cause provide ane collar of brass, iron, or copper, which by his sentence or doom (whereof an extract is delivered to the magistrates of the said burgh of Perth), is to be upon his neck with this inscription: ALEX. STEWART, FOUND GUILTY OF DEATH FOR THEFT, AT PERTH, THE 5TH OF DECEMBER, 1701, AND GIFTED BY THE JUSTICIARS AS A PERPETUAL SERVANT TO SIR JOHN ARESKINE OF ALVA; and recommending also to him to transport him from the said prison once the next week; and the said Commissioners have ordained and hereby ordain the magistrates of Perth, and keeper of their Tolbooth, to deliver the said Alexander Stewart to the said Sir John Areskine of Alva, having the said collar and inscription conform to the sentence of doom foresaid."

THE FORTH,*

From its source to its confluence with the German Ocean.

THE FORTH is one of the largest rivers in Scotland. It is first formed of several small streams rising on the north of Ben Lomond, or flowing from Loch Katrine and the other lakes in the adjacent country. It proceeds easterly in a direct course for above 100 miles, receiving in its progress the tributary waters of the Goodie, the Teith, and the Allan above Stirling, and below it the Devon, the Carron, the Avon, the Almond, the Leith, the Esk, the Leven, the Tyne, and others; and it discharges itself into the German Ocean in about 56. 10. of north latitude. The windings of the Forth, both above and below Stirling, are extremely beautiful. From its junction with the Teith above Stirling to the carse ground below Gartmore the windings extend about 28 miles, although the distance in a direct line is only about 20. From Stirling harbour to Alloa the length of the river is 10½ miles, although in a straight line it is not more than 5, and here it is comparatively narrow, shallow, and winding. From Alloa to Grangemouth the distance is 5 miles; and here the Forth widens, with a variable depth of from 4 to 15 feet at low water. From Grangemouth to the Long Craig Beacon at North Queensferry, a distance of 10 nautical miles, proceeding downwards the depth increases in the first mile from 10 to 15 feet, and in the second mile to 25 feet at low water, and at the third mile to 53 feet, while the remaining part of the distance—7 miles, including the great anchorage of St Margaret's Hope—has a depth generally of about 60 feet at low water. At Queensferry the river is 2 miles wide; at Kingshorn nearly 6; between Dysart and Aberlady about 12; and between St Abb's Head and Fifeness, where the Forth joins the German Ocean, it is from 35 to 40 miles. Near Queensferry, between Inchgarvey and the north shore, it deepens to 37 fathoms. Between Elie and the south shore its depth is sometimes 30 fathoms; and it never exceeds this depth to the westward of its junction with the north sea, except as above stated.

The Forth, like other streams connected with the ocean, ebbs and flows twice in 24 hours, but the flood and ebb

* Extracted, by the kind permission of the Publishers, from the *ENCYCLOPÆDIA BRITANNICA*.

run about two hours longer in the middle than at the shore. The tide flows $4\frac{1}{2}$ miles above Stirling shore. At this harbour spring tides rise 7 feet 9 inches, and at Alloa $19\frac{1}{2}$ feet.

It was high water, according to Captain Thomas's observations in 1815, at

	H.M.	Spring Tides rise.	Neap Tides rise.
Elie Harbour,.....	2.11 p.m.	14 feet.	6 feet.
Leith and Burntisland,.....	2.15 „	16 $\frac{1}{2}$ „	7 „
Hopetoun House,.....	2.30 „	17 „	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ „

The tides at Leith and Kinghorn rise sometimes as high as 19 feet above low-water mark, the average being $17\frac{1}{2}$ feet.

There are in the Forth, as elsewhere in similar rivers and arms of the sea, particular currents. Among the most remarkable are those known by the name of *Leakies* above the Queensferry, which are particularly observed from Culross to Alloa. "These consist in an intermission of the tide at certain places during the flood, and before high water the sea ebbs. On the contrary, while the sea ebbs, and before low water, the ebb intermits. and a flow commencing, continues some time; after which the ebbing is resumed until low water. This is seen during two hours, and the irregularity occupies more or less of the river according as it is spring or neap tide."

Certain winds, acting upon the great mass of the Atlantic Ocean, affect the times at which it is high or low water in the Forth, while their effect upon the extent of the rise or fall of its waters is frequently very considerable.

The prevailing winds of the Forth will be seen by the following table, constructed from observations taken every day, at ten o'clock forenoon, on the island of Inchkeith, for the ten successive years ending on 31st December 1826 :—

DIRECTION OF THE WINDS.	DESCRIPTION OF THE WINDS.				
	Light Airs.	Breezes	Gales.	Storms.	Total.
South	96	165	29	2	292
South-West.....	42	181	111	5	339
West.....	275	807	267	22	1371
North-West.....	44	157	13	3	217
North	26	105	20	1	152
North-East.....	68	90	23	24	205
East.....	334	345	34	26	739
South-East.....	104	109	6	5	224
Changeable	101	12	...	...	113
	1090	1971	503	88	3652

The prevailing winds and their relative force, as indicated at the Calton Hill Observatory, may also be seen from the following table constructed from the observations taken there every day under the superintendence of the astronomical observer for the same ten years, ending on 31st December, 1826. The entry in the register for each day is applicable to the winds of its whole 24 hours.

DIRECTION OF THE WINDS.	DESCRIPTION OF THE WINDS.						
	Moderate and Calm.	Briak.	Sharp.	High.	Very High.	Ex- tremely High.	To'al.
South.....	85	2	...	17	-8	4	111
South-West..	310	43	1	178	68	30	630
West.....	444	54	3	235	54	8	798
North-West..	207	33	4	143	48	9	444
North.....	61	6	4	17	5	...	93
North-East...	122	11	2	21	2	...	158
East.....	381	37	4	45	4	...	471
South-East...	181	8	3	14	2	...	158
Changeable..	588	44	4	119	29	29	789
	2329	238	25	789	215	56	3652

From these tables it will be observed that the prevailing winds in the Forth, the gales and the storms at Inchkeith, and the "very high" and "extremely high" winds at the Calton Hill Observatory, chiefly proceed from westerly directions.

The waters of the Forth and its tributary streams are all fresh until they mingle with that of the ocean. Long before the river becomes two miles wide they acquire a salt-ness which differs little, if at all from that of the sea. The water in the neighbourhood of the coal-works on the Forth has been often evaporated for the sake of the salt, which was here at one time an extensive article of manufacture.

The constituent parts of 10,000 parts of the waters of the Forth were found by Mr Murray, in the course of three different analyses made in different ways, to contain

Muriate of soda,.....	242.51	245.04	220.01
Sulphate of magnesia,.....	7.86	17.04	—
Sulphate of soda,.....	9.99	2.66	33.16
Muriate of magnesia,.....	34.49	28.63	42.08
Muriate of lime,.....	—	—	7.84
Sulphate of lime,.....	9.45	9.72	—
	304.80	308.09	308.09

Mr Murray placed most confidence in the results obtained from the last of these analyses.

The minerals of which the banks of the Forth are composed will be found described under the counties of East Lothian, Mid-Lothian, West Lothian, Stirling, Clackmannan, Perth, and Fife, by all of which the Forth is bounded. Coal, besides being wrought in these counties, was once worked near Culross and Torryburn under the bed of the river, and partly by pits within high-water mark. At the mouths of these pits there were piers, at which vessels were loaded with coals. But the mines above referred to have for many years been filled with water. At West Wemyss, however, there are still extensive coal mines worked under the sea.

The bed of the Forth consists to a great extent of mud, and in many places the sandstone bottom is covered with it to the depth of 20 feet. Its banks above Alloa, and a great way below that place, are formed of this material, which is brought down by the waters from the higher levels; and the carse of Stirling and Falkirk, &c., which have been formed from its accumulation, are secured at their lowest levels by sea dykes against inundations occasioned by the rise of the tides. The recent alluvial cover to the westward of Alloa has been found by Mr Bald in some places to be no less than 90 feet deep, and to contain trunks and branches of large trees, and beds of sand and sea shells, particularly of the oyster, cockle, mussel, donax, &c.; and similar beds of shells not only abound at and around Alloa, but are found several miles to the westward of Stirling similarly situated. Many of the oyster-shells are of uncommon thickness, and larger than any specimens that can now be found. What makes the westerly position in which these uncommonly large shells are found very remarkable is that there are no specimens of the oyster now found farther up the Forth than Queensferry.

There is also a bed of marine shells on the banks of the Forth near Borrowstownness about three miles in length and several feet in thickness, and which is situated many feet above the present level of the waters of the Forth. This circumstance would favour the opinion that the sea in this quarter had at one time occupied a higher elevation in relation to the land than at present; an opinion which is farther supported by the fact of the skeleton of a large whale having been found some time ago in the lands of Airthrey, near Stirling. The surface of the ground where the remains of this huge marine animal were deposited was ascertained by Mr Stevenson to be 24 feet 9 inches above the present level of the high water of the Forth at spring tides. The skeleton of another whale, with a bone harpoon

sticking in it, was also found seven miles farther inland, on what is now the Blair Drummond moss.

But if the land has been gaining on the waters in the upper part of the Forth, ground has been lost farther down the estuary. The sea has made considerable encroachments at North Berwick; at Newhaven an arsenal and dock, built in the reign of James IV. in the fifteenth century, has been swept away. On the coast of Fife, in 1803, the last remains of the Priory of Crail and the ground on which it stood met with a similar fate; and no traces can now be found of the lands which extended into the sea, and formed in 1225, the estuary, the fisheries of which were then a subject of an important dispute between the monks of Dryburgh and those of the Isle of May; all that now remains of this estuary is a small streamlet called the Drill burn, which flows through a portion of the sands in West Anstruther harbour.

At Largo Bay the sea seems now to be covering ground which was formerly dry land. Here a submarine forest has been discovered, the roots of the trees penetrating into a brown clay, over which is irregularly distributed a covering of sand and fine gravel. The peat upon it is composed of land and fresh water plants, amongst which are hazel nuts, and the remains of birch, hazel, and alder trees. The root of one tree, apparently an alder, was here traced by Dr Fleming to an extent of more than 6 feet from the trunk.

On almost all the shores of the Forth there is an abundant supply of sea-weed, which has often been burned at various places to form kelp, but this trade is now given up. The produce of the rocks and what is cast ashore in storms is now therefore only used as manure.

Numerous porpoises are often seen tumbling and disporting in the firth, and seals lying on the rocks or swimming along the coasts. Sharks of several species have occasionally made their appearance, and have been brought ashore by the fishermen in their nets about Anstruther and elsewhere. Numerous cetacea from 20 to 30 feet long have often been stranded in the Forth. From twenty-five to thirty of these animals were at one time on shore between Cambuskenneth and Alloa. A male Beluga or white whale, apparently of full growth, appeared in its waters in 1815. It was killed by the salmon fishers near the same place, and sent to Edinburgh, where it was dissected by the late Dr Barclay.

The salmon is abundant in the Forth, and salmon fisheries have been established for many years at Stirling, Abercorn, near Queensferry, and many other places on both

sides of the firth, as far down as Largo Bay. The whole of these fisheries belong to thirty proprietors, and such of them as were let in 1854 produced a gross rental of £1316. The rent of the town of Stirling's fishing then amounted to £354, of another proprietor to £240, of another to £126, of two others to £70 each, and others were let under that sum, a few at a rent of £5, and thirteen of them brought no rent at all, as they appear to have been considered of little value.

Herrings are also plentiful in the Forth, and at various fishing stations the fishery is prosecuted successfully. To give some idea of its extent, in the Anstruther district in Fife, which includes all the sea-ports from St Andrews to Buckhaven inclusive, the total number of barrels or crans of herrings taken (1854) amounted to 17,906½, whereof 11,468 were sold fresh, 3699½ were sold and exported to Continental markets, and 2739 cured and sent to Ireland.

The number of full-sized cod and ling caught and cured was 84,855, of which 1089 cwts were dried, and 1865½ barrels were pickled. In addition to these, 9958 cwts of full-sized cod and ling were caught and sold in a green state and sent to and consumed in Leeds, Preston, Birmingham, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Cupar, Stirling, Perth, Dundee, &c. The value of the annual average of haddocks sold fresh has lately been estimated at £4000, of smoked £12,000, of turbot, halibut, lobsters, crabs, &c. £458, and of periwinkles, £136.

There were engaged in this district, in 1854, 500 boats, 2099 fishermen, 97 coopers, 1444 gutters and packers, and 1063 labourers, all in the employment of 68 fish-curers. The value of the boats and their appurtenances was reported to the fishery commissioners to be £61,991.

In the Leith district, which includes all the portion of the firth above North Berwick on the south, and East Wemyss on the north shore, the total number of crans or barrels of herrings taken (in 1854) were 16,045½, whereof 6695½ were cured, and 9350 were sold fresh; 13,714½ were sold to Continental markets, and 496½ sold and sent to Ireland. The number of ling and cod caught by the fishermen of this district were all sold fresh, and have been estimated to the commissioners at 5900. All the other fish caught here were also sold and consumed in a fresh state. There were employed in this trade, in 1854, 354 boats, 1166 fishermen, 100 coopers, 489 gutters and packers, and 224 labourers, all in the employment of 25 curers. The value of the boats and their appurtenances was reported to be £21,771.

Besides the fisheries in the Forth above stated, there were

35 boats, 134 fishermen, 25 coopers, 205 gutters and packers, and 40 labourers employed in the same trade by 2 curers at Canty Bay, and 30 at Dunbar, and the fish taken by them are generally sold fresh.

In addition to the Scotch fishermen, it may be mentioned that all parts of the firth are occasionally fished by English vessels, and a dozen at a time of English fishing smacks, and as many as 20 French boats, have been occasionally seen by the Anstruther fishermen to be so employed; 40 sail of foreign vessels were at one time known to have been fishing cod near St Abb's Head.

Lobsters and crabs are caught at all the fishing-stations in the Forth, as well as in the Anstruther district. Mussels, cockles, limpets, and whelks are also collected and sold in great quantities at the places where they abound, and oysters are extensively fished at the oyster beds, which are met with near Inchkeith and farther up the Forth.

There is nothing remarkable about the wild fowl resorting to the firth in winter.

Besides the Bass, in the entrance to the Forth, there is another island, the May; and the larger islands farther up the Forth are Inchkeith, Inchcolm, and Inchgarvey. The smaller islands are Fidra, the Lamb, the Craigleith, near the Bass, and Mickry and Cramond islands, near Inchcolm.

The principal obstructions to the navigation of the Forth between Alloa and Stirling have hitherto arisen in a great measure from the two fords of the river, the one called the Town ford and the other the Abbey ford, and from the channel being rendered shallow partly by large boulders and partly by accumulations of peat. The peat accumulations have arisen chiefly from the proprietors above Stirling clearing several thousand acres of their lands for cultivation, by removing the peat which covers them, and moving it into the river in order to be carried away by the current to the sea. This practice has been followed since 1732. The moss covering the soil varies in depth from 14 to 4 or 5 feet but the greater proportion is 10 feet. Mr Drummond of Blair-Drummond, from 1783 to 1839, floated away upwards of 1600 acres of this substance.

The principal sandbanks which obstruct the navigation further down the firth are the Drum-sands, near Cramond, and the Sand-end on the east of Burntisland harbour.

The principal rocks which require to be avoided by the mariner are the South Carr Reef, lying N.N.W. from Dunbar, the North Carr, about a mile and a quarter east of Fifeness, the Blae to the west of Kinghorn Ness, the Commons to the west of Burntisland, Craig Waugh

S.E.½E. of Inchkeith, and the Gunnet Rock, Pallas Rock, Long Craig, Briggs, and Harwit in its neighbourhood ; and several miles farther west and nearer Inchcolm, the Oxcares, Carcraig, and Mickry Stone. Many of these rocks are seen at the lowest ebbs ; their position, together with the different landmarks, which are necessary to point them out to the mariner, are delineated on the Admiralty Charts, and the sailing directions for the Firth of Forth, contained in the *Coaster's Assistant*, which is published in Leith. To show their position still better, floating buoys have been placed upon Craig Waugh, the Gunnet, the Harwit, and the Pallas Rocks ; and beacons have been erected on the Oxcares, the North Carr, and on the Long Craig, and on most of the other dangerous rocks, and on several shoals and sand-banks.

Besides these provisions for aiding the navigation, there are two lighthouses on the Isle of May, one on the island of Inchkeith, and various other lighthouses are now erected on all the harbours and landing places of importance in the firth.

The anchorage of the Firth of Forth is excellent. Mr Osborne, in a report to the Lords of Admiralty on 2d May 1853, says of it, "Between the Humber and the Frith of Cromarty there is no other harbour or anchorage into which large ships of war can safely run for shelter or rendezvous other than the Frith of Forth, and more particularly in the reach above the Queensferry, where the shelter is complete. But as the Firth of Cromarty is away from all important interests, the Frith of Forth must be considered the only war port north of the Humber, and therefore a most fitting place for a naval arsenal." But besides the great and important anchorage at St Margaret's Hope, in the reach above the Queensferry, which is more particularly referred to in the Admiralty Report, Leith Roads to the west of Inchkeith is another which is capable of holding a large fleet of ships of war of any size. The minor anchorages in the firth, which are also very good, are at Aberlady Bay, the western part of Largo Bay, Burntisland, St Davids, Limekilns, &c.

The landing-places in the Forth are, on the south side the harbours of Dunbar, North Berwick, Port Seton, Morrison's Haven, Fisherrow, Leith, Newhaven, Trinity, Granton, South Queensferry, Borrowstownness, Grangemouth, and Stirling shore, and on the north side Crail, Anstruther, Elie, Pittenweem, Leven, Methel, West Wemyss, Dysart, Kirkcaldy, Kinghorn, Pettycur, Burntisland, Starleyburn, Aberdour, St Davids, Inverkeithing, North Queensferry,

Charleston, Crombie Point, Culross, Kincardine, and Alloa. Great improvements and new erections have been lately made at most of these harbours which are of any note; and in particular, the Duke of Buccleuch's magnificent harbour in progress of formation at Granton, and the extension of Leith pier into deep water may be referred to. Of less magnitude is the deepening of the channel of the Forth between Alloa and Stirling by commissioners' acting under the Act of Parliament 6th and 7th Victoria, cap. 47. Since the passing of this act in 1843, a channel of about 500 yards in length has been formed through the Abbey ford, giving about 3 feet 6 inches greater depth of water than formerly. A channel about 1000 yards in length has also been formed through the Town ford, which is not yet fully completed as regards its depth of water. In these operations many thousands of large boulder stones and the peat accumulations which formed obstructions to the navigation have been removed, and no doubt is entertained by the inspectors, who have reported to Government on the subject, but a depth of 16 or 17 feet at spring tides will be obtained up to Stirling when the works in progress are completed. Upwards of £9000 (including the expense of the act and of erecting a quay at Stirling) have already been expended by the Harbour Commissioners on these operations, and £7000 more is about to be expended upon them. This sum is to be paid to the commissioners by the town council of Glasgow for damage likely to arise to the improvements in progress on the Forth, from the liberty obtained by the city of Glasgow to draw a large quantity of water from Loch Katrine. In addition to these sums, the revenue of the Forth Commissioners, which is considerable, will enable them still further to extend their works.

Further, the low-water ferry landing-place at Burntisland, belonging to the Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee Railway Company, is a great improvement at that port; and at Kirkcaldy, Buckhaven, and other harbours, extensive works are in progress under Harbour Commissioners.

The coasting and foreign trade of the Forth is carried on in vessels varying in size from 18 to 500 tons. The principal port to which they belong is Leith; but there are several whalers and large vessels engaged in the Australian, American, Mediterranean, and Baltic trades, which belong to other ports in the Forth.

The traffic in goods and passengers between the ports in the Forth and London, Greenock, Glasgow, Liverpool, Hull, Newcastle, Dundee, Perth, Aberdeen, Inverness, Peterhead, and almost every considerable seaport in Scotland, is

conducted chiefly by vessels of joint-stock companies, which vessels sail periodically. Joint-stock companies are also engaged in the Leith trade with Hamburgh and Rotterdam. The Glasgow, Greenock, and Liverpool trade is chiefly conducted through the Forth and Clyde Canal.

The number and tonnage of the vessels belonging to the ports in the Forth in 1855 are as follows :—

At Alloa, including the creeks of Kincardine and Stirling, 74 vessels with a tonnage of.....	12,402
At Borrowstownness, including the creeks of Charleston and Limekilns, 47 vessels, with a tonnage of.....	8,781
At Grangemouth, 54 vessels, with a tonnage of.....	9,238
At Inverkeithing, 23 vessels, with a tonnage of.....	2,361
At Kirkcaldy, including the creeks of Largo, Leven, Wemyss, Dysart, Kinghorn, Burntisland, and Aberdour, 60 vessels, with a tonnage of.....	7,687
At Leith, including the creeks of Granton, Fisherrow, Cockenzie, and Dunbar, 176 vessels, with a tonnage of.....	25,404

Total 434 vessels, with a total tonnage of..... 60,868

To facilitate the communication between the northern and southern parts of Scotland by a passage across the Forth, wooden bridges were erected at an early period, and the old stone bridge of Stirling was erected before 1571 ; the new stone bridge and the railway bridges near it were erected only a few years ago. There was once a project of erecting a suspension bridge at Queensferry, and another project of making a tunnel there ; but both the schemes were abandoned.

The passage of the river and firth by ferries has been an object of Legislative enactment since 1467. Before the introduction of steam navigation, the traffic at these ferries was chiefly conducted by open boats, pinnaces, and yawls of various sizes, and from the want of low water piers they seldom departed from either side except at high water. Most of these ferries are still private property. The private rights of the Queensferry passage were purchased by Parliamentary Trustees in 1809, and large sums have been expended on its improvement. The ferries at Kinghorn and Burntisland were also under Parliamentary Trustees for many years ; but they have now ceased to be so, and the Fife and Mid-Lothian ferries and their landing-places at Kinghorn, Pettycur, and Burntisland, are now the property of the Edinburgh, Perth, and Dundee Railway Company, who afford the ferry accommodation as a portion of the railway business.

THE RIVER STEAMERS.

IT may render this narrative the more complete that a brief enumeration be here given of the steamers which from time to time have plied on the Forth betwixt Stirling and Granton, and of the companies to which these belonged.

In the spring of 1813, the *Comet* made a few excursions on this river, though not as a passenger steamer, and in the summer of that year, *The Stirling*, built at Greenock, and owned by Mr Bell, commenced to ply with regularity. The *Lady of the Lake*, built at Kincardine for a Glasgow company, and the *Morning Star*, also built at Kincardine, for an Alloa and Kincardine company, were both launched on one day, and both steamers, thus owned by rival companies, were placed on the passage in 1815. The *Lady of the Lake*, after running eighteen months, proceeded to Hamburg, and after plying on the Elbe for two years returned to her old passage, having as consorts the *Star* and *Stirling Castle*. In the year 1826, a number of gentlemen in Stirling, thinking they might as well as others share in the profits of a steam-boat proprietary, subscribed the sum of £4500 for the purpose of building and placing on the passage a new boat. But the company composed of gentlemen belonging to Glasgow feared that a competition with able Stirling rivals would be a ruinous affair, and rather than risk the loss of what they had gained, they proposed to part with their share in the steamers, *Lady of the Lake*, *Stirling Castle*, and *Morning Star*, for the sum subscribed by the party in Stirling, namely, £4500. The offer was accepted, and so the Glasgow folks retired from the field, leaving the management of the boats entirely in the hands of owners who formed themselves into the "Stirling, Alloa, and Kincardine Steam-boat Company." To this company the public have since then been indebted for the great facilities afforded for cheap, safe, and swift travelling betwixt Stirling, Alloa, Granton, and intermediate ports. In 1835, however, the competition was renewed by Mr Barclay, and others, of Glasgow, who sent round the *Benlomond*, next the *Benledi*, and afterwards the *Dumbarton*. Each worked with a will to throw its rival off the passage. The fares were frequently reduced, till at times the "million" had an opportunity of sailing from Stirling

to Newhaven for the small charge of threepence ! A band of instrumental music, to boot, to entice passengers on board and keep them in good humor, was not unusual. But this was a game at which two could, and did, play, the local company being ultimately the winner. Besides, as the Glasgow company took repose during the winter months, and laid their steamers up till the approach of spring, while the "Stirling, Alloa, and Kincardine Company," to their immediate pecuniary loss, kept the passage open, all the year round, for the benefit of the public, never failing to have elegant, commodious, and well-appointed boats, the boon was rightly appreciated. On the renewal of the summer trade, the public generally indicated their preference for the company who had, in all seasons, so faithfully served them, and at length the Glasgow company found it expedient to withdraw their boats from the passage.

Notwithstanding the expedition attending railway travelling, the steam-boat, at least from Alloa, conveys passengers to Granton in nearly the time required by the railway train and more economically. The courtesy of the masters of the steamers (*The Victoria* and *Prince of Wales*), now on the passage, in explaining to those on board, when desired, the objects of interest which successively come into view, the civility indeed of all the company's servants, and the comfort with which parties may breakfast, dine, or have tea, on board, form agreeable accessories to the trip. Above all, the beauties of the river itself, the varied attractions of the scenery along the banks of the silver flood, and the remarkable meanderings of the river beyond Alloa, must ever contribute to uphold the popularity of steam-boat travelling on the Stirling and Edinburgh passage.

"Thy windings, FORTH ! what stream can e'er excel,
Still on thy native beauties would I dwell ;
But bare Description, in her highest sphere,
Will never round the splendid lab'rinth steer,—
The mind must feel, the wondering eye behold,
The gorgeous feast thy circling LINKS unfold !"

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ANNUAL REGISTER
FOR THE COUNTY OF CLACKMANNAN.

[From the *Falkirk Herald* of Thursday, 10th January, 1861.]

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[From the *Annan Observer*.]

It is to be regretted that other counties do not follow the example of Clackmannan, and publish a work like the one before us. It is a most valuable little book to all in the district.

[From "*The Critic*," (London) of January 19, 1861.]

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[From Her Majesty's Private Secretary and Librarian.]

Windsor Castle, 5th Jany., 1861.

"SIR,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your County Handbook, which will be, I am sure, very useful to residents in that province, as it is interesting to topographical collectors generally; and as a work of reference.

"I have placed it amongst the Topographical pamphlets in the Royal Library.—I am, Sir, yours very obediently,

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